

HOME NEWS

Unions oppose 'Civil Service status' for special advisers

By Peter Hennessey

The five-year rule limiting the stay in government of special advisers appointed by ministers from outside Whitehall is to be abolished. In future they will be able to stay until the administration they serve is defeated at the polls. A Civil Service Order in Council, 1969, is to be amended.

The change of policy, announced in a parliamentary written reply by Mr Charles Morris, Minister of State at the Civil Service Department, was criticised by the staff side of the National Whitley Council, which represents all Civil Service unions.

It said it overturned an agreement of 1972 requiring temporary civil servants, a category that includes special advisers, who remain in post for more than five years to submit to open competition organised by the Civil Service Commission.

Mr Peter Jones, deputy general secretary of the national staff side, said a protest would be sent to Sir Ian Gendall, head of the Home Civil Service, who had not consulted the unions.

After a leak of the Government's intentions appeared in *The Times* in May, Mr William Kendall, general secretary of the staff side, engaged in a correspondence with Sir Ian, who had not replied to his last note.

"We are not against special advisers, but we do not want

them to have Civil Service status", Mr Jones said.

Six special advisers will come up against the five-year barrier next March if Labour is in power. The Government took legal advice about the validity of present restrictions, which in common with most regulations introduced since the mid-nineteenth century, were intended to limit the scope of direct ministerial patronage in what is an impartial-career Civil Service structure.

Mr Morris disclosed that the legal advice afforded the Civil Service Commission was: "That the courts might well take the view that the commissioners should, in forming their opinion, take into account that the natural meaning of a 'permanent appointment' is one which may continue until the individual appointed reaches pensionable age, and that an appointment which is intended to end at a point of time well short of the completion of a career would not be readily understood to be permanent."

In the light of this advice the commissioners have concluded that the appointments of special advisers, limited to the life of the current Administration, are self-evidently not permanent, even if not to be renewed after the current Administration expires beyond five years, and therefore do not require their certification.

The national staff side will discuss the new arrangements at its weekly meeting tomorrow.

Patronage delay, page 3

Police deny being indifferent over fire

By Robert Parker

Police officers in Greenwich, London, denied yesterday that they were indifferent to the cause of a fire that burnt out the Albany Empire, a multi-racial club in Creek Road, on July 14. They said the fire was being examined with an open mind.

Earlier, the All Lewisham Campaign Against Racism and Fascism (Alcaraf) and club staff had suggested that the fire had been deliberately started by a right-wing group and that the local police were apparently indifferent about the cause of the fire.

Mr John Jennings, chairman of Alcaraf, said three reports in local newspapers just after the fire quoted the police as ruling out arson and foul play and putting the cause down to an accident or natural causes.

"To my knowledge the police did not deny these reports at the time," he said.

The police said yesterday that investigations were continuing. They still had no idea about the cause of the fire. After the fire, which caused damage estimated at £250,000, a note saying "not you", and bearing the number 88, was found. That was interpreted by Alcaraf as meaning Column 88, a right-wing paramilitary-type grouping.

The local fire station report said the cause of the fire was "doubtful". Fire Brigade headquarters explained yesterday that in fireman's jargon "doubtful" means that something malicious or untoward is suspected. When a report says the cause is doubtful, the police are called in.



Fire damage at the Albany Empire club.

'Sun' staff vote to stay out by 102-1

By Donald Macintyre

The Group newspaper management yesterday took the first formal step towards issuing redundancy notices to printing workers on the Sun as the paper's journalists again voted to stay out until at least 6 pm today.

But the journalists, who were dismissed last Thursday night, indicated that they were willing to resume talks at the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service, where pay negotiations ended in deadlock on Monday.

The management wrote to general secretaries and local chapter fathers (shop stewards) giving warning of possible redundancies and calling for immediate talks. By today the dispute had caused the loss of nine successive issues.

On Monday the management made productivity proposals which were rejected by union negotiators.

The management proposals are understood to suggest possible increases through:

- Attraction of staff through natural wastage;
- Use of existing staff to man a Glasgow desk when the paper is printed in London;
- More editorial content in proportion to advertising.

The chapel (office branch) declined to comment yesterday. It is understood that the vote to stay out until today was 102 to 1, and that a proposal that the journalists should return for seven days was defeated by a margin of about four to one.

Mr Bert Hardy, managing director of News Group Newspapers, said last night: "If the chapel are willing to go back to work, we shall be willing to go with them."

The Sun has lost more than

34 million copies because of the dispute. Net cash losses are calculated as running at £150,000 a day. The Sun management believes that the Daily Mirror has put on nine million extra copies, the Daily Express 6,500,000 and the Daily Mail 3,500,000 during the dispute.

A Newspaper Proprietors' Association statement last night said that it noted that the National Union of Journalists' executive had declared as a matter of principle that members should honour agreements and regretted that there was a clear breach of that principle in regard to the dispute at *The Sun*.

A letter from the management to the journalists yesterday said the former had guaranteed to complete its productivity plan "within seven days of intensive discussion with the chapel, once there had been a return to work". It said the journalists' refusal to work was preventing completion of a deal.

Journalists at the Press Association, who had been banning "flexible and good will working" at the news agency, voted yesterday to lift their sanctions until Monday to allow new talks to take place.

Both sides had received reports from separate consultants which are believed to suggest possible productivity increases.

Dr Owen slips disc

Dr David Owen, the Foreign Secretary, cancelled his engagements yesterday after slipping a disc. He was picking up one of his sons at his home in Narrows Street, east London, at the time.

Friendship suggested to keep dog at bay

By Robin Young

The RSPCA has proposed to advise custom-timed bows to copy-unfriendly dogs. It is based on information by Dr Michael Fox, a behaviourist and a pet who insists in his book that dogs can communicate, for instance, by grinning.

The leaflet does not grinning, but it recommends that the dog in a way, or firmly, and to keep calm. "Try showing your fear," it says, adding: "A dog can read fear eyes and body movement."

Even friendly dogs at occasional visitors to their job to defend territory. The vis advised to respond in a way, never to snarl or backbite up, but above to run away. "That tells the dog's chase response is in the runner getting."

Ignoring dogs is because it heightens it but it can also be acceptable in the can't to go forward.

Final advice from the Never stare at a dog, and interpret as a threat other hand, if the dog is up and its fangs would be unwise to eyes off him. The pol is: "If in doubt be slowly, keeping the your sight at all times. How about petting a friendly dog? (RSPCA way, Horsham, Sussex, addressed envelope.)"

Possible hint of a spring poll by Prime Minister

By Fred Emery

Signs that the Prime Minister and his senior colleagues have not completely ruled out the possibility of surviving another parliamentary session through an arrangement with the Scottish nationalists were seen in a delay announced yesterday for the Scottish referendum on devolution.

Mr Callaghan, at question time in the Commons, told Mrs Margaret Baio, SNP, (Dumfriesshire) that a new parliamentary session "must be waited before the date of the referendum could be fixed."

It was later officially made clear that the Prime Minister had meant to say October, for, as arrangements stand, parliament is due to reassemble on October 24. Orders arranging the devolution referendums must be approved by both Houses, and it had earlier been assumed that the Government

would try to get them through before the summer recess. In that way the Labour Party could have fought an autumn election with the referendum officially set.

Now, one option at least remains open. According to one senior minister, the 11 SNP MPs may be offered a package in exchange for their support to keep the Government in business until next spring. The referendum and the election could be held at a time more suitable to the nationalists. The SNP is presumed, in that view, not to be keen to put its claims to popular support to the test in the wake of the Scottish by-election disappointments.

From the Government's view, a Spring election and referendum could be held on the basis of a new electoral register which comes into force on February 15.

Parliamentary report page 7

Family taxation review

The Government is to prepare a Green Paper on possible changes in family taxation, Mr Joel Barnett, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, announced in a parliamentary written reply yesterday.

He had been asked to explain how the Government proposed to carry forward proposals for structural changes in tax.

Mr Barnett said the Government recognized the need for the system to be adapted to changing patterns of family

life and changes in the status of women.

"There is, however, no clear consensus as to the direction which any structural changes should take, raising as they do such matters as the aggregation of the incomes of husband and wife, the treatment of the working wife and her husband, and the fundamental question whether the family or the individual should be regarded as the basic unit for tax purposes," he said.

Former Leyland man 'created red herrings'

By Stewart Tendler
Crime Reporter

Financial reward was of secondary importance in giving the story of "slush fund" activities at Leyland to the *Daily Mail*, Graham Barton, a former Leyland financial executive, said at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

The £15,000 would have been compensation for the risk of destroying his job and career.

Mr Barton, aged 34, and his wife, Fatma, have pleaded not guilty to charges of forgery and deception involving one letter purporting to have been written by Lord Ryder, of Eaton Hastings, then chairman of the National Enterprise Board, to British Leyland's chief executive, and another said to be from a Bank of England official to the company.

Continuing a lengthy statement from the dock yesterday, Mr Barton repeated that the Ryder letter had come from a source he could not name. When its validity was challenged he had decided to take full responsibility and told the newspaper and the police that he had forged it.

At the time he did not think his action would lead to criminal charges. Later he heard another statement to the police in which he made up the details of his forgery because it seemed the best way of obtaining his release from custody.

When he was thinking about giving his account to the matter to a newspaper he had realized that it would prompt an investigation into the source by British Leyland and he said he had "adulterated" some documents to hide their origins.

He retyped one letter to confuse investigators and that was why he had bought typewriters for a typewriter. Other changes had been made on documents. He had created "red herrings" for reasons of personal security.

Mr Barton described how his story had come to the *Daily Mail* and what had happened last May when the newspaper printed the "slush fund" allegations. He said he had discussed with Mr Nicholas Guitard, a freelance journalist, the type of newspaper to go to.

Mr Guitard had suggested the Sunday Mirror but Mr Barton wanted a newspaper that was independent and fairly popular. He told the court: "The *Daily Mail* most closely reached this specification."

Documents were given to the newspaper after an agreement that discretion would be used and the papers would be returned. However, one of the *Daily Mail* journalists at the time had made some mention of them to a British Leyland public relations officer.

Mr Barton was called to see a superior at the company and told that his name and reports

he had made on various divisions and payments had been mentioned. Mr Guitard spoke to Mr Stewart Tendler, associate editor of the *Daily Mail*, about getting the papers back, and Mr Steven wanted to meet Mr Barton.

They met, and Mr Steven told Mr Barton that the investigation would be conducted properly and last some time. The newspaper would spend several weeks evaluating the documents and then decide whether to proceed. A full check of the documents might eventually cost the *Daily Mail* £20,000.

Mr Barton said he was told that the story the newspaper wanted to develop would cover a fairly wide number of industries. He said he told Mr Steven that he could not guarantee either the Ryder or the Bank of England letters because they had come from somewhere else.

At another meeting Mr Barton said Mr Steven told him that eventually the newspaper would have to confront Lord Ryder and Mr Alex Park, British Leyland's chief executive, with the letter. Then the newspaper would have to act quickly to avoid injunctions against publication.

At one meeting Mr Steven said that the reference to Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, in the Ryder letter seemed to be out of character. Later, Mr Barton said he was told that the newspaper

was going ahead with the publication and bringing the date forward. The newspaper was prepared to pay £15,000 immediately.

He and Mr Guitard discussed the situation and Mr Guitard said he got the impression the newspaper offer could not be refused because they would go ahead anyway.

Mr Barton said he wanted to see Mr Steven but he had to go away on business for a day. On his return he found that the newspaper had discovered his identity and visited his home. Up to that point he had not given his real identity. He was told that the newspaper was going to press with the article that night.

After the article had appeared, Mr Barton said, he met the *Daily Mail* journalists and Mr Steven told him the letter was a forgery. He asked for the name of the person who had passed it on.

Mr Stevens told him that either the source must be revealed or the newspaper would give Mr Barton's name to the police.

Mr Barton said he made a statement to the *Daily Mail*, believing nothing would happen apart from a retraction. Then it was suggested that he should surrender to the police, he agreed, and went with Mr Steven and the newspaper's crime reporter to Scotland Yard.

The trial continues today.

Road tax dodgers may cost Exchequer £60m

By a Staff Reporter

Drivers may be costing the revenue between £50m and £60m by avoiding paying road tax on as many as one car in 10, according to a study published by the Department of Transport yesterday.

Mr William Rodgers, Secretary of State for Transport, said in a Commons written reply that staff in a random selection of 130 district council areas had taken long walks around down the proportion of unlicensed cars. They yielded figures of 21 per cent unlicensed.

But since most drivers cheating on their road tax are unlikely to leave their cars on the public highway, department

officials made a desk study, as to calculate the proper evaders by subtracting legitimately unlicensed sample of unlicensed cars.

From that, they estimated the number of cars using the road as high as between 7 and 10 per cent of the licence.

They also estimated the cost of the dodgers tax for between one or four months.

Some regional differences emerged. Higher proportions of unlicensed cars (21 per cent) were found in Wales (10 per cent) and the North (10 per cent) and 12 per cent were likely to avoid duty.

De la Mare papers save

By Our Arts Reporter

Grants from the Arts Council and the Victoria and Albert Museum have ensured that the manuscripts and literary papers of Walter de la Mare will stay in Britain.

The V & A is to make a grant of £10,000 and the Arts Council a special grant of £5,000 through the National Manuscript Collection of Contemporary Writers Fund. The rest of the £30,000 purchase price is coming from the Bodleian

Library, Oxford, an anonymous gifts made it.

Negotiations to keep material in Britain is going on for about 10 years, it consists of the papers, manuscripts, and page proofs of de la Mare's poetry and short stories, lectures, speeches, and is an all time record. The Arts Council is understood to be first of such magnitude literary collection.

Steel-Callaghan talks early next month

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

Mr David Steel, the Liberal Party leader, expects to have a meeting with Mr Callaghan early in September, which will mark the formal ending of the parties' pact.

It was made on the basis that it would last for the present session, and for all practical purposes it ends tomorrow, when Parliament adjourns for the summer recess.

Mr Steel will have the backing of the party and all his parliamentary colleagues when he tells the Prime Minister that if he seeks to go on for another session or part session the Liberals will use the first opportunity, in the debate on the Queen's Speech, to defeat the Government.

That has been made plain by Mr Steel and other Liberals already.

The fact that the party leader intends to continue with the series of informal Liberal-Labour consultations in the first week of September, within a week of the party conference

at Southport, will cause dismay among the party rank and file, who believe that the Liberals must distance themselves from Labour in the period before the general election so that they can make a distinctive Liberal appeal to the electorate.

It is being suggested that Mr Steel still bankers after a renewed agreement with Labour, and that he is not playing his hand to the best effect by appearing to court the attentions of Mr Callaghan and remaining aloof from Mrs Thatcher and the Conservatives.

The impression, given, it is said, is that the party is not taking an impartial stance, and that political opponents will be able to say that Mr Steel is just "Mr Callaghan's poodle."

That, as Mr Steel sees it, is Mrs Thatcher's fault, not his, because she has declared that she is going for an all-out victory and does not expect to be forced into a position where

she has to bargain with minority parties.

If Mr Callaghan thinks he can again win Mr Steel over, he will have to reckon on meetings before the general election, namely an undertaking to have early in the session a Bill to introduce proportional representation for elections to Westminster; and there would have to be in addition a requirement by Labour MPs to back the Prime Minister's word.

Mr Steel reckons that Mr Callaghan would not be able to "deliver". Thus he and his party organizers have come to the conclusion that rather than face defeat in the Commons in November on the Queen's Speech the Prime Minister will decide to go to the country in October.

Liberals have marked in their diaries October 5 as polling day, and all their plans are geared for the vote on that date. If it turns out to be October 12, which is still the favourite among MPs generally, then the Liberals will be early in the field, and they hope to gain by it.

BBC proposes alternative plan to White Paper

By Peter Evans

The BBC is to put to Mr Merlyn Rees, the Home Secretary, alternative proposals to those in last week's White Paper, which are seen as a threat to its independence.

Although the governors of the BBC have held no formal meeting yet, opinion is hardening towards devoting more attention to programme content.

But their discussions would be after the broadcasts, so that they retain a measure of detachment as a way of resolving the difficulty implicit in their dual role, both managerial and as trustees of the public interest.

The BBC is to tell Mr Rees of its opposition to the Government's proposal to create a service management board with Home Office nominees on them. It says it has had with BBC senior staff a discussion about the new boards might put pressure on programme makers to play down issues in the national interest instead of promoting free discussion.

Air Ian Trethowan, Director-General of the BBC, told me yesterday that the proposal to have Home Office nominees serving on the boards raised "the spectre at some future occasion of political interference."

"We are not saying that Mr Merlyn Rees is going immediately to pack the board with his own people who are instantly going to screw down the BBC, as it were, in the interests of the Labour Party," he said.

The Government proposes to include the BBC change in the new royal charter, which will come into force on August 1, 1979.

Mr Trethowan pointed out that the new charter would last into the 1990s. "Who can foresee what sort of scenario would exist in the 1980s, let alone the 1990s?"

He said that if the object was for part-time nominees to instruct television and radio programme makers then there was concern lest they should assert political influences.

"The BBC sometimes broadcasts plays that are uncomfortable," he added. "You might cut out of the schedule one or two highly controversial plays that the man on the Clapham omnibus thinks should be cut, but a lot of other things would go as well."

Even if the Home Office chose nice people for the board the ideas would be wrong in principle and wrong in practice, Mr Trethowan said.

Speaking of the importance of the governors' role, he said: "The way the place should be run is that you have some superior authority drawn from outside the BBC, appointed from outside. They lay down the strategy and they appoint professional heads to carry out the strategy. If they do not like the way the professional heads are carrying it out, fair enough: fire them and get some more. But do not try to get part-time outside people who get involved in the day-to-day problems of running the programme. You end up quite seriously blurring the cutting edge of the programme-making organization."

If there was to be more accountability it should in some way come through the governors. They would need to devote more time to it.

Man cleared of murdering niece

Whitfield Rudolf Thomas, aged 28, of Hackney, London, was acquitted yesterday of murdering his niece, Monica Thomas, aged 18, in Alexandra Park.

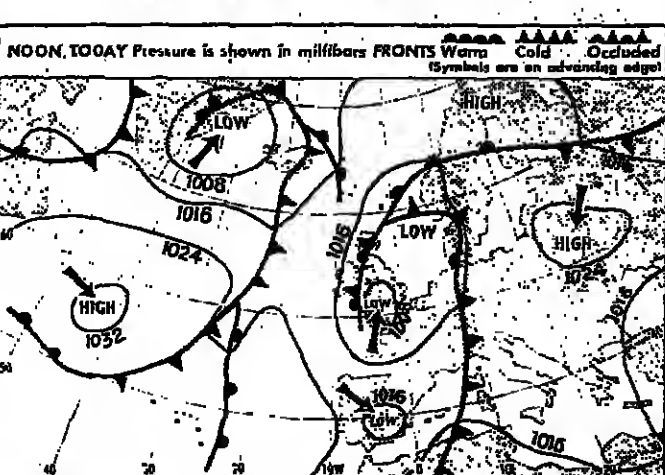
He told the Central Criminal Court that he heard screaming and found a man bending over the girl. He grappled with the man, who ran off.

Thorpe legal aid query

Mr Jeremy Thorpe, Liberal MP for Devon North, asked the Attorney General last week what sum of capital precluded an applicant from receiving legal aid.

In a Commons written reply yesterday he was told that the sum is £1,600 and that it was last increased on November 28, 1977.

Weather forecast and recordings



Today
Sun rises: 5.25 am
Moon rises: 4.5 am
Sun sets: 8.48 pm
Moon sets: 7.33 pm

New Moon: August 4
Lighting up: 9.18 pm to 4.37 am
High Water: London Bridge, 1.45 am, 6.50 am (21.61 ft); 2.4 pm, 6.70 am (22.11 ft); Avonmouth, 7.5 am, 11.6 am (23.1 ft); 7.18 pm, 12.0 pm (39.2 ft); Dover, 11.16 am, 6.0 pm (19.6 ft); 11.34 pm, 6.0 am (19.3 ft); Hull, 5.38 am, 6.50 am (21.4 ft); 6.27 pm, 6.50 am (21.4 ft); Liverpool, 11.20 am, 3.30 pm (27.3 ft); 11.28 pm, 3.60 pm (28.2 ft).

A complex area of low pressure covers the British Isles.
Forecasts 6 am to midnight:
London, SE England, East Anglia: Rather cloudy, showers or longer outbreaks of rain, some bright intervals; wind SE, moderate, veering S fresh; max temp 17°C (63°F).

Central S England, Midlands: Rather cloudy, showers or longer outbreaks of rain; wind E, moderate; max temp 17°C (63°F).
Channel Islands: Cloudy, outbreaks of rain, becoming brighter later; wind W, fresh; max temp 18°C (64°F).

SW England, S Wales: Mostly cloudy, outbreaks of rain, some bright intervals; wind N or NE, light or moderate; max temp 17°C (63°F).

Wales, N Wales: Mostly cloudy, outbreaks of rain, some bright intervals; wind N or NE, light or moderate; max temp 17°C (63°F).

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HOME NEWS

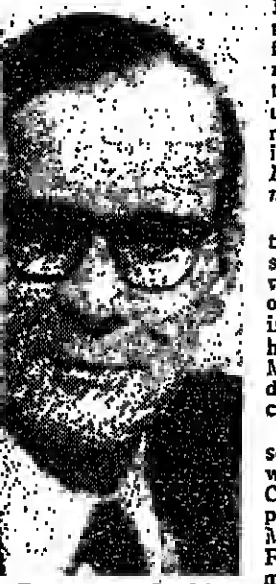
Ministers delay Civil Service plan for form of patronage

Mr Charkham: Highly regarded official.

Mr Charkham, director of the Civil Service Department, has announced that the Civil Service Department will not open the system of patronage to the public. He said that the Civil Service Department will continue to use the system of patronage to appoint people to the Civil Service. He said that the Civil Service Department will continue to use the system of patronage to appoint people to the Civil Service. He said that the Civil Service Department will continue to use the system of patronage to appoint people to the Civil Service.



Mr Charkham: Highly regarded official.



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A 'hopelessly addicted' smoker turns to hypnosis for help and surprises himself Three weeks without a cigarette and determined not to give in

By Robert Parker

Two years ago a computer programmer, I was a hopelessly addicted smoker who would find it impossible to give up cigarettes. I had suspected that sad state of affairs long before I filled in the computer questionnaire. I have then remained of it several times since—each time I have made yet another effort to give up or cut down.

But a month ago I underwent a course of hypnosis. For nearly three weeks, I have not smoked a single cigarette. What is more, I feel hopeful that I shall never again be a slave to the weed.

To me this is a great achievement. I used never to smoke fewer than forty a day. Frequently I got through sixty. When things were exceptionally bad, there would not be many left in my fourth pack by the time I had the last one before bed.

Every aspect of my waking, working and social day was associated with cigarette smoking. When I was busy, I smoked. When I was bored, I smoked. When I was reading or writing, I smoked. When I was driving or watching television, or making a telephone call, I smoked.

Unlike some addicts I know, there was never a single cigarette that I can recall not enjoying. And there were certain cigarettes of the day I adored, such as the one with coffee and the paper after breakfast.

But much as I enjoyed smoking, I knew increasingly that I ought to give it up. The medical evidence was overwhelming. It did not matter that it was now extra-mild brands, I smoked, or that I had taken out plenty of life assurance. There was my wife and the baby. I owed it to them to stay alive and healthy. Despite all that, I could not give up, or even cut down.

It was in a kind of desperation that I turned to hypnosis, or hypnotherapy as it is now called by doctors who use it. It cost £100 for four 45-minute sessions spread over 10 days, but as it appears to have worked, it was cheap at the price.

It was not easy giving up. Hypnotherapy provided no magic, simple cure. I ached and craved for cigarettes and felt awful for days. I had stou-

ach unsets, could not sleep and was depressed.

But whatever the reason, hypnosis or something connected with it, I have given up smoking for the first time in my life. I really feel that I can give it up for good, that I shall never smoke again.

To be treated by a medically qualified hypnotherapist, it is first necessary to go to your doctor, who will write to the British Society of Medical and Dental Hypnosis in London for a list of practitioners. The society has just under a thousand members, most of whom offer hypnosis privately rather than under the health service.

The doctor I arranged to see was in Harley Street. The price of £100 is apparently towards the higher end of the scale.

I arrived rather nervously for my first session. The doctor took details of my attitude towards smoking and asked about my medical history and family. He told me rather bluntly that hypnosis was not a magic process that would stop me smoking without any effort on my part. I had to be strongly motivated, otherwise it was almost certainly a waste of time and money.

He chatted to me and gen-

erally put me at my ease about hypnosis. He told me to lean back and completely relax in my chair. I was then talked into a state of what I can only call deep relaxation.

It was only because the doctor induced, and later removed, a sense of slight numbness in my right arm that I felt I had been hypnotized. Throughout the session I was completely aware of what was happening and what the doctor was saying to me.

Contrary to general belief, that is the case with most people who are hypnotized. Only about a tenth cannot remember what happened.

During the first session the doctor talked about how dangerous and foolish smoking is. He told me that many people who smoke die of lung or heart disease. He made me imagine beautiful country scenes and then contrast them with the stupidity of smoking. He told me it was utterly selfish to smoke in the same room as my baby daughter.

Those of course were the sort of things I thought about in my everyday life. Under hypnosis, I suspect the thoughts have much more significance or effect.

The three further sessions developed and reinforced the themes and arguments. After the first session at lunchtime, I returned to work and did not smoke a cigarette for the rest of the afternoon. Normally in that period I would have smoked up to about twenty.

The weekend that lay ahead was extremely busy, and threatening, because I usually chain-smoked in company. By the time I reached a party on Friday evening, I was in quite a state. On seeing all those unfamiliar faces, I just had to have a cigarette.

The doctor had not said whether I was to carry on smoking until the last session or stop immediately after the first. He simply pointed out that, in his experience, 90 per cent of those who stopped between the first and second session gave up for good.

By the time I had my second cigarette on that Friday evening I felt a failure. It was only when my wife told me that she was amazed at my progress (I would normally have smoked about thirty during the evening) that I realized that the hypnosis might be working.

During Saturday and Sunday I had a couple of puffs, but

that was all. I was full of craving, but I did not seem to allow myself to smoke. The worst period was from Monday onwards, when I could not concentrate on anything or even watch the television. I felt restless, listless, bad tempered and depressed. I had a stomach upset, yet I kept making myself cups of coffee or sandwiches, just for something to do instead of lighting up.

Towards the end of the week things started to improve. For the first time, I began to feel a sense of achievement.

I still miss cigarettes, especially in the company of smoking friends. But the craving occurs less often, and when it does it is not quite as bad as it used to be. Having got so far I feel determined never to relapse, not to even have "just one".

A London doctor who uses hypnosis to stop people smoking, says that in his experience there is a 55 per cent success rate. But there are no comprehensive statistics. Success rates vary between 25 per cent and 80 per cent, according to English and American research on the subject.

Next: Potential uses of hypnosis

'Eminent' politician fined £250 for shoplifting

Mr's Nasim Wali Khan, aged 42, a Pakistani, was fined £250 at Marylebone Magistrate's Court, London, yesterday, plus £30 costs, for shoplifting.

Mr Peter Goldstone, the Magistrate, told her: "I appreciate that you are an eminent politician in your country. The facts of this case make it absolutely manifest that this was deliberate stealing from a London store. I can see no reason why I should deal with you other than as an intelligent woman who decided to steal rather than pay."

Mrs Khan, whose husband is the leader of Pakistan's National Democratic Party, part of the Pakistan National Alliance coalition, admitted stealing a pair of trousers and underwear valued at £4.68 from Marks and Spencer in Kensington High Street on July 12. She was said to have had £427 on her at the time.

Call to simplify psychiatric patients' release

Psychiatric patients should not have to follow such a complex procedure in applying for release, the Committee on Mental Health Review Tribunal Procedures said yesterday.

In a discussion document it suggested that the 6,000 patients compulsorily detained in hospitals should have a simpler and improved procedure for applying to leave. The committee was formed last year to undertake the first thorough review of tribunals' procedures since they were established 18 years ago.

The committee's main proposals are that patients should fill in a simplified application form; that rules should be standardized; that patients and their representatives should be better informed about procedures; and that patients' rights to information should be increased.

It also recommends that hearings should continue to be in private unless the patient prefers them to be public.

More manpower planning needed in health service

By John Roper
Health Services Correspondent

The main resource of the National Health Service is its staff, and the redistribution of money to help poorer regions should be accompanied by a similar strategy for the distribution of doctors, the Royal Commission on the NHS has been told in a study which it requested.

The research paper on the management and financial resources of the service, prepared by a team at Warwick University, suggests that manpower planning must accompany any policy on resource allocation. The crucial post in the medical profession on which all others depend is the hospital consultant, it suggests.

In recent years the Central Manpower Committee has approved more posts than there was money to fund. Resources are wasted if a consultant refuses to take up a post because the facilities are inadequate, the study paper says.

It says that resources that are poorly used ought to be questioned and staff sent to other work or perhaps units should be closed.

The Department of Health places emphasis on rationalization, it says, but gives little guidance on how difficulties in bringing it about are to be overcome.

The report says there is great need for more effective communication between clinicians, making continuous decisions about treatments and those who plan the NHS, give guidance and allocate resources.

In another research paper, ordered by the royal commission, on the Resource Allocation Working Party's plan now being used to redistribute NHS resources, the authors, Professor Rudolf Klein, Bath University, and Mr Martin Buxton, of the Policy Studies Institute, London, point out that other things being equal, the use of health services decreases with distance from health care facilities. By providing transport, subsidizing travel costs of patients and relatives, or by improving the flow of information about availability, services could become more effective.

The royal commission makes clear that the views expressed are those of the authors of the research papers and not of the commission.

Management of Financial Resources in the NHS (Stationery Office, £4). Allocating Health Resources: a commentary on the report of the RAWP (Stationery Office, 85p).

Power workers to consider £100 wage call

Workers at power stations throughout Britain are to hold mass meetings to consider a proposal by shop stewards yesterday for £100 a week for craftsmen.

The proposal was heard at a meeting of more than two dozen delegates representing Britain's power stations, at Doncaster, South Yorkshire, called to formulate future policies.

The £100 wage, suggested by the National Joint Shop Stewards Committee, would mean an increase of about a quarter, with a similar proportional rise for lower-paid workers.

Other proposals by the shop stewards were for a 35-hour week, five weeks' annual holiday and optional retirement at 60.

Mr David Smith, the committee chairman, said the proposal was a suggestion, not yet a demand.

Danger money demand

Nurses at the top security Rampton Hospital, near Reigate, Northamptonshire, began a work to rule yesterday as part of their campaign for increased danger money for supervising violent patients.

Windsor warning over new pop festival

From Our Correspondent
Windsor

Anyone involved in attempts to organize a pop festival at Windsor, Berkshire, will be taken to court, Windsor and Maidenhead council said yesterday.

The warning came after Mr William Dwyer of Dublin, had announced a return of the Windsor Free Festival from August 26 to 28, the Bank holiday weekend.

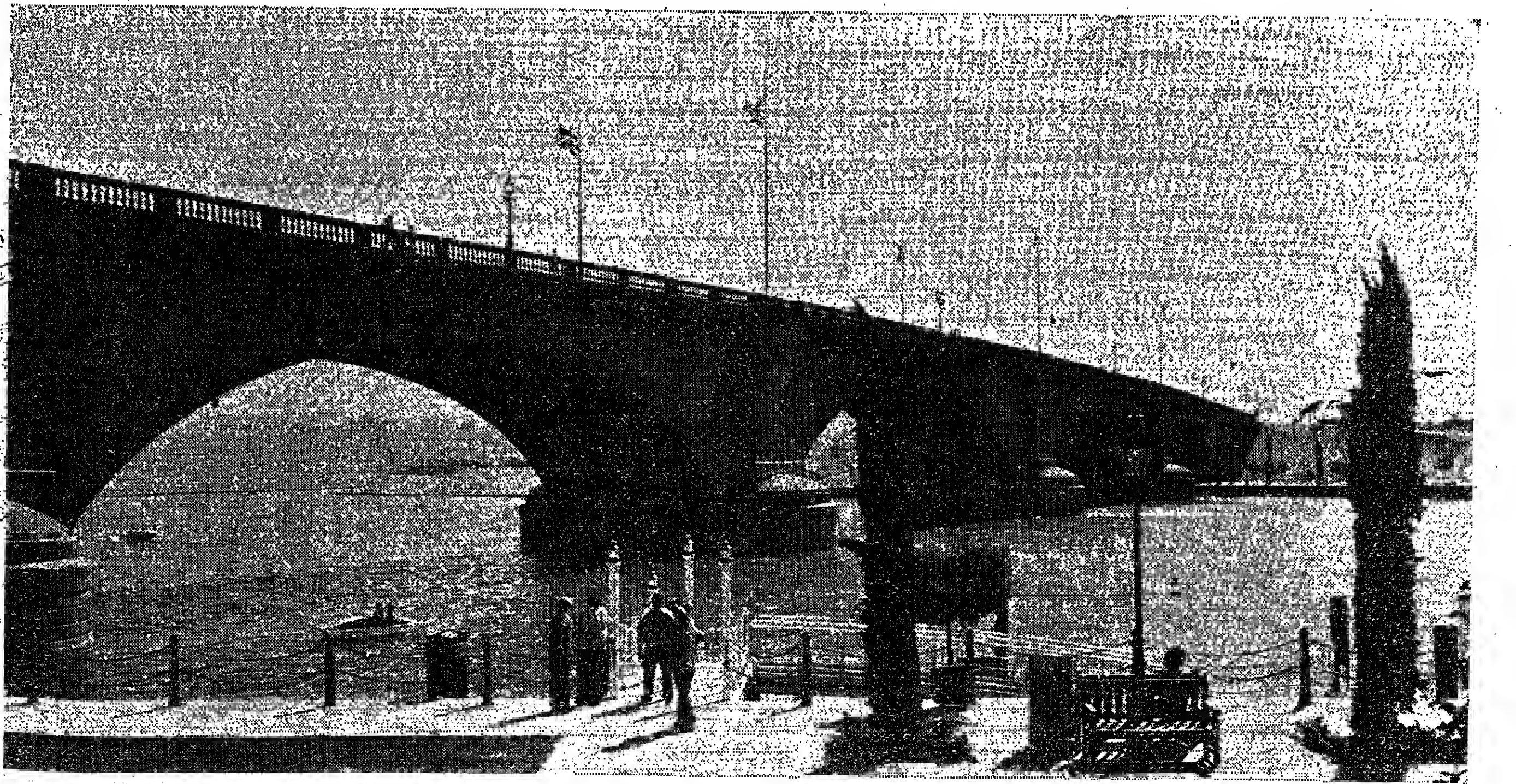
Mr Peter Welch, the council's chief executive, said after an emergency meeting to draw up anti-festival plans: "We shall not hesitate to seek committal orders against anyone who tries to organize another festival in Windsor."

Represented at the meeting were Windsor and Maidenhead council, Thames Valley Police, the Crown Commissioners, and the Windsor Citizens Action Group.

The last Windsor Free Festival, four years ago, ended in a battle between police and fans with more than 200 arrests.

Charity worker dies

Mr Anton Wallich-Clifford, who founded the Simon Community, which cares for homeless and destitute people, has died in hospital in Hampstead. It was disclosed yesterday.



We achieved exports of £1,000 million without it.

We reckon that our export record is strong enough, without including the sale of London Bridge to the Americans.

After all, exporting £1,000 million worth of building materials and products each year is no ordinary feat, quite apart from know-how.

Mind you, our industry is no ordinary industry either.

The severe industrial relations problems that many have, we don't.

Our costs we have kept well under control. We have saved energy to the tune of a million tons of coal annually, yet still reached the same level of productivity.

And, despite a cut-back in public spending, we have kept up a steady rate of investment in modern

equipment and new ideas.

All in all, a good example of private enterprise working for Britain, without adding in poor old London Bridge.

However, we feel we should remind you that we did supply everything for the new London Bridge.

The Building Materials Industry A solid base for Britain's economy.

HOME NEWS

Airport chaos easing, with French due to decide today on action

British airports were still congested with thousands of holiday makers yesterday, despite an easing in traffic. The French air traffic controllers who have been taking part in the strike action have said it will continue until today, when they will meet to decide on continuing the work-to-rule next weekend.

A serious difficulty is that through the wide-scale disruption, aircraft are not where they should be after nearly four days of chaos.

Congestion at Gatwick, one of the worst affected, eased yesterday because of the smaller number of flights due out in midweek, but five flights due out on Sunday and 38 from Monday had not left. Passengers booked on 18 of the flights were sent home on Monday.

Gatwick official said: "We are hoping to get about two thousand people away today". At Luton almost indefinite delays on all holiday flights were reported. The reduced pressure meant that the backlog had fallen from two thousand passengers to about one thousand five hundred.

"The difficulty is, we do not know what the French are going to do", an official said.

The Civil Aviation Authority said delays were fewer, "but that is not much consolation for the passengers if the airlines have no aircraft".

At Heathrow, London, scheduled European flights were leaving either on time or with only short delays, the longest being about one hour to Paris. British Airways gave a warning that if the controllers

repeated their go-slow action little could be done to avoid a repetition of last weekend's delays.

Improvements in spite of delays of up to 36 hours on flight schedules at French airports, there was a distinct improvement yesterday in air traffic (Our Paris Correspondent writes). At Orly departures were much more regular, but arrivals experienced long delays, especially those from Spain. The huge crowds that made the airport building look like a refugee camp had disappeared, and the situation looked almost normal. At Roissy, delays varied between 15 minutes and six hours on both departures and arrivals, with Britain, Spain, Portugal and Africa most affected. Lheria arrivals cancelled 32 flights. At Lyons, Marseilles and Bordeaux the situation improved hour by hour.

The air controllers seemed to have been taken back by the chaos they have caused to French and international air traffic, as well as by the adverse response of the public. They may grasp an olive branch if the Minister of Transport offers one.

The minister said on Monday that he was ready to negotiate but not while the work-to-rule continued.

M. Claude Abraham, Director of Civil Aviation, said on the radio yesterday that the controllers' demands on air security were "not quite reasonable". In the past eight years, their number had more than doubled, while aircraft movements had increased by half. Conditions of work did not, in his opinion, threaten passenger safety.

Britain is likely to join airbus partners

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

Britain appears certain to join the European airbus consortium as a full partner in the manufacture of the smaller 200-seat B10 version of this aircraft. The aircraft has been ordered by Lufthansa and Swissair.

An official announcement is expected in two weeks. If Britain joins, British Airways will be under intense pressure from the Government to choose the B10 for the next 20 years for short-haul and medium-haul routes, rather than the American Boeing 737 or the McDonnell Douglas advanced technology medium range (ATMR).

At a meeting of ministers concerned with aerospace with the Prime Minister in Whitehall yesterday, it was reported that negotiations with the European airbus partners were going well.

A progress report is to be given to a Cabinet meeting today.

British Airways has assessed the B10, the 737 and the ATMR, and although its first choice continues to be the 737, the airline would probably not be very unhappy to take the European aircraft.

The question outstanding would be which engine would be used to power it. Rolls-Royce has urged the Government to permit development of the RB 211-535 version, but although that could be used on both the 737 and the ATMR it would be too small for the B10.

The B10 could use the existing, and more powerful, versions of the 211, but that would not meet the Rolls-Royce case for the long-term development of the engine.

A further point under negotiation is the price Britain would have to pay as a nation to join the consortium.

The consortium, which includes France, West Germany, Holland and Spain.

British Aerospace makes the wings for the existing versions of the airbus, more than a hundred of which have been sold to airlines around the world, but as subcontractor.

The proposal is that if Britain joins the consortium as a full partner British Aerospace would design and make the wing for the B10. If she stays out the consortium the B10 wings would go to aircraft factories in Europe.

'Piggyback' offers

More than a hundred offers to buy the three tower blocks of this known as the 'piggyback' at Everton, Mount Liverpool, have been received by the corporation.

Strikers disrupt docks at Hull and Goole

From Our Correspondent

A strike disrupted the commercial docks at Hull and Goole yesterday as lock gate men took action with the Docks Board's maintenance engineers over a demand for pay parity with dockers.

Mr Geoffrey Cullington, docks manager at Hull, where 200 maintenance men and about fifty lock gate men are on strike, said the pay claim was contrary to government policy. A meeting of the Hull docks engineers decided to continue the strike indefinitely.

A North Sea Ferries ship from Rotterdam discharged a thousand passengers and cars at a riverside jetty outside Hull docks and another of the company's vessels carrying passen-

gers and cargo was diverted to Ipswich.

About 250 ferry passengers were sent to the West Bank Terminal, Ipswich. The port authority said it was the first time a passenger ferry had docked there. North Sea Ferries laid on coaches for foot passengers and gave a special allowance to drivers to compensate for the inconvenience.

Dockers at Hull and Goole were working normally, but argued that they should be paid in the next few days because of lack of maintenance.

The men on strike say that pay parity with the dockers was agreed four years ago but no progress has been made towards achieving it. The engineers and lock gate men at Grimsby and Immingham may join the stoppage today.

Woman dead in flat for eight months

An elderly woman had been dead in her council flat for eight months before she was found, it was stated at an inquest at St Pancras, London, yesterday.

Her neighbours had complained to the council that something was wrong since November last year. Housing department officials visited the flat in Westminster, London, in April, but did not find her body. It was not until July 20, when the council's cleaning department went to the flat, that the body was found wedged between a mattress and a wall.

The police have been unable to find any relatives and have appealed for help from the public.

She is believed to be Mrs Alice Curtis, aged 77, a widow, who may have a sister living in the Islington district.

The inquest was adjourned for police inquiries. Later Mrs Kate Guthrie, who lives just above the self-contained council flat said: "We hardly ever saw her."

No further action by Mr Rees in 1969 murder case

By Marcel Berlins

Mr Merlyn Rees, the Home Secretary, has made it clear that he intends to do nothing more in the case of David Cooper and Michael McMahon, who were convicted of the murder in 1969 of a Luton shopkeeper but are believed to be innocent by many who have looked into the case.

He has told Mr Brian Magee, Labour MP for Waltham Forest, Leyton, Mr Cooper's constituency, that a recent speech by Lord Devlin, criticising the court of Appeal's approach in the Cooper and McMahon case, provided no ground for taking action.

Lord Devlin said in May that the two men had been convicted by a jury that had not heard substantially the whole of the evidence, and that the appeal hearings had been only in form but not in substance.

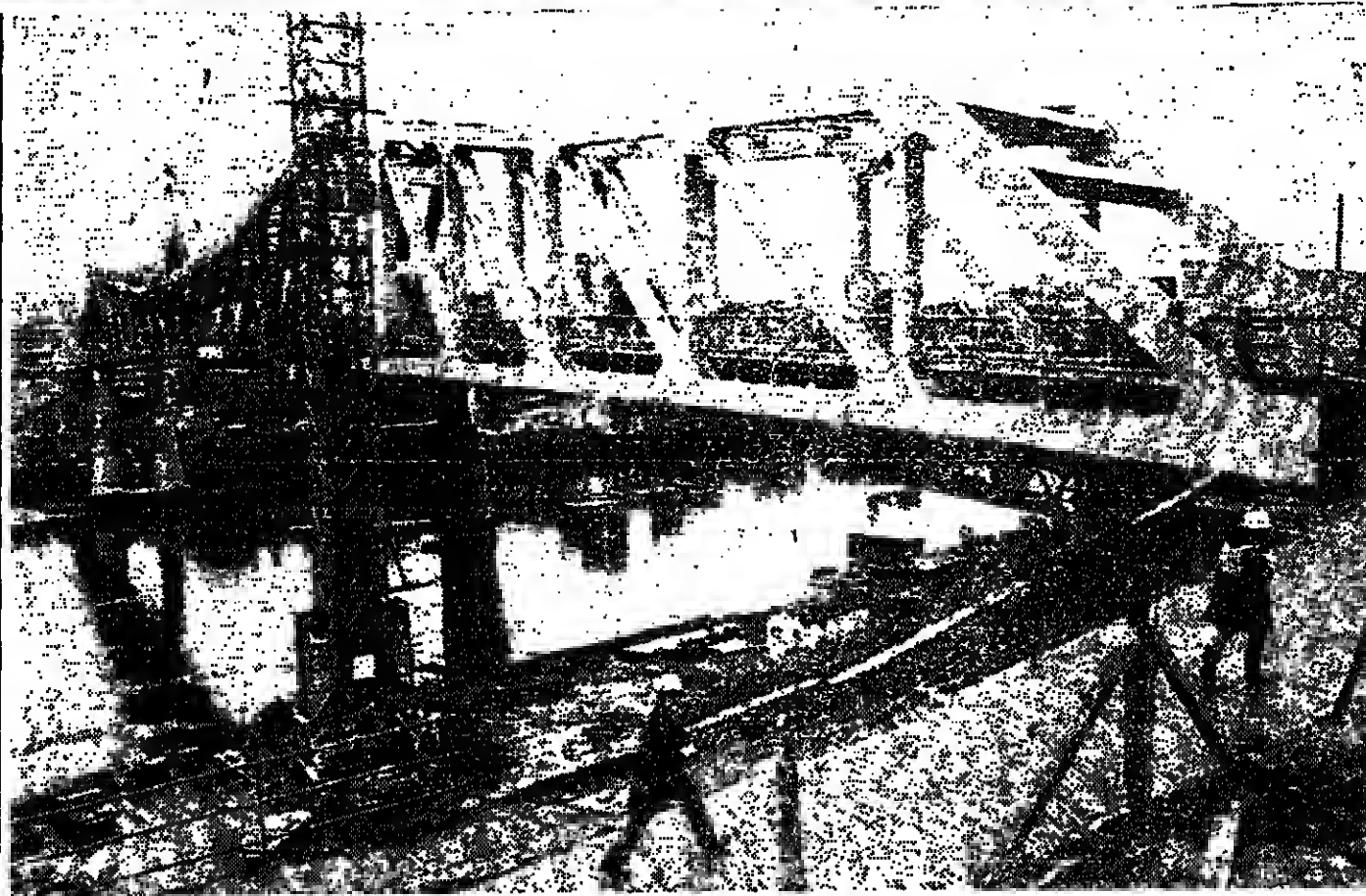
The case has come before the Court of Appeal on an unprecedented five occasions. Mr Rees points out in his letter, that,

constitutionally, questions of guilt or innocence are for the courts, and that the Home Secretary can intervene only if there is a new fact or consideration not previously considered by the courts.

He adds that all new evidence put forward on behalf of Mr Cooper or Mr McMahon had been referred to the court, which, however, did not regard Mr Cooper's conviction as being unsafe or unsatisfactory. There was also no new fact or consideration to justify his recommendation of removal of the sentence or the exercise of the royal prerogative of mercy.

Mr Magee says the conclusion of the Home Secretary's letter, is profoundly unreasonable. "I cannot resist the conviction that your predecessor would by this time have released David Cooper and rightly so."

"But the case will not lie down or go away.... I do not think it will stop being a focus of public attention until David Cooper is released."



The Tyne's new Metro Bridge seen after the last piece of decking had been lowered into place. It is the longest continuous railway bridge built in Britain.

High temperatures need to kill botulism organisms, authorities say

Toxin risk in smoked fish and home bottling

By Ronald Kershaw
and Robin Young

Attention was drawn yesterday to some other aspects of the dangers of botulism, the rare, virulent and often fatal food poison, the day after four smokers in Birmingham became seriously ill after eating tinned salmon.

A letter in the National Federation of Fishmongers newsletter yesterday referred to the danger inherent in eating rainbow trout, and the Consumers' Association said there was a risk of botulism from attempts to bottle meat, fish or vegetables in the home.

In his February letter to the fishmongers' newsletter, which has been delayed by production difficulties, Mr C. R. Watkins, inspector to the Fishmongers' Company, says the misconception that only raw fish contains botulism was effectively destroyed in 1971 when smoked rainbow trout was found to have been the cause of a small outbreak in Germany.

"This led to more research", he said, "and it was shown that the organism, in small numbers, was present in perhaps 60 per cent of all rainbows. Given the right conditions, the organisms could grow and produce their deadly toxin."

He criticizes the "somewhat belated" Department of Health and Social Services advisory memorandum on the subject for its length, its scientific language, and its metric weights and temperatures, and opened with the mistaken idea that rainbow trout were gutted and gilled on the trout farm.

Directed at the fishmongering trade, his letter says:

"There is a microorganism that can cause trouble. Clostridium botulinum in small quantities, as we might find in recently killed fish, it is not likely to harm anybody, but given the right conditions of warmth and time, and particularly if we exclude the air from it, it will multiply and do so to produce its toxin."

"That toxin can be destroyed by heat, so that if the fish is cooked the risk is diminished, but it has to be well cooked; the temperatures in a hot smoking kiln are probably not high enough."

Most of the organisms, he says, are in the gut and gills, so there organs must be taken out cleanly and completely. The gut cavity must then be thoroughly washed with running water that is allowed to flow rather than into a stilling trough full of other fish.

Great care must be taken to ensure that knives, boards and other equipment used in gutting rainbows do not come

into contact with other foods, especially those that will be eaten without further cooking, say smoked salmon. Selling trout to the round, he says, is likely mainly to transfer this difficulty to the private or restaurant kitchen.

Botulism, as most pathogenic organisms, requires warmth for growth, so keep them at least at chill temperatures. This applies to smoked trout perhaps even more than to fresh fish. Remember, they will probably not be cooked again.

Time is the other factor, so make sure that your trout is as fresh as possible and that as time and raised temperature together are the most dangerous combination, keep stock displayed outside the chill to a minimum and never return fish that have warmed to stocks in the chill. Destroy them."

Mr Watkins says that as much salt as possible should be used in processing rainbow trout by smoking or packing. Rainbow trout should never be vacuum packed.

The August issue of the Consumers' Association's magazine, Which?, says preserving jars are sold with leaflets containing recipes for hotting meat, fish and vegetables, and that might be extremely dangerous.

The magazine says it is almost impossible on a domestic cooker to maintain temperatures high enough to kill microorganisms, and emphasizes that the spores that cause botulism are extremely heat-resistant.

Food in which the spores have developed to produce toxin need not have an "off" smell or taste unpleasant, the magazine says. People who have already bottled food that might contain toxin should throw it away, after boiling it to avoid any danger to animals.

Most fruits, because of their acidity, are safe to bottle at home, but the magazine suggests that those with little acidity, such as tomatoes and pears, should be bottled only if citric acid is added.

New isolation unit for rare diseases

Rare infections such as Lassa fever can now be treated or a new isolation unit at Ham Green Hospital, on the outskirts of Bristol.

A consultant and a team of 28 volunteer nurses staff the £15,800 wing within the hospital's general isolation section. The unit can be sealed off and has its own air conditioning, and effluent treatment and disposal system.

Staff covering isolation change into sterilized suits or impregnable outfits with life-support back packs. As staff

leave the unit they take a shower and their clothing is sterilized again.

Safety precautions also include a plastic tent to enclose a patient when the highest security is needed.

The unit took two years to plan and build. It serves eight counties in the south-west, from Gloucester to Cornwall, and part of South Wales, Porton Microbiological Research Establishment, near Salisbury, will also be served.

Dr Ronald Walley, a consultant in infectious diseases, is in charge. "I regard the new unit as something of an insurance policy," he said. "One hopes it will not be needed, but if it is we shall offer simple protection for the public and staff as well as expert attention for the patient."

Ham Green had been an important isolation centre for many years, and the new secure wing meant that the hospital was one of only five centres in Britain that offer such a high degree of isolation. All the volunteer staff had been highly trained.

A leisure centre at M will include a swimming pool, games hall, library museum.

Hunt for escaped prisoner

A search has begun potentially dangerous who escaped by ladder Maidstone jail, Kent, yesterday. He is Brian Jolington, aged 27, who is 10 years for possessing a gun and robbery. The police was known to be violent.

Concoction thrown in girl's face in jewel raid

Two youths aged 17 hid a mixture of pepper, vinegar and Vim in an empty hair cream jar and tricked a jeweller's assistant into swallowing it after saying it was a present, it was stated at Winchester Crown Court yesterday.

When Jean Parlane, aged 18, went to sniff the concoction it was thrown in her face, temporarily blinding her, it was stated. In the confusion the two youths snatched a handful of jewelry and rings valued at more than £2,000 and entered a waiting car. They were arrested after a police chase.

Dennis Planter, a solicitor's clerk, of Poplar Road, Brixton, and Peter Hunnigale, unemployed, of Eadyman Road, Brixton Hill, London, were both jailed for three years after pleading guilty to robbing the jeweller's shop in Aldershot in June and taking and driving away a car.

Mr Richard Denning, for the prosecution, said the two youths planned their raid carefully and made at least four visits to the shop before staging the robbery.

A consultant and a team of 28 volunteer nurses staff the £15,800 wing within the hospital's general isolation section. The unit can be sealed off and has its own air conditioning, and effluent treatment and disposal system.

TUC watch on pay levels in the public sector

By Christopher Thomas
Labour Reporter

The TUC is to be asked to establish a public service committee to ensure that public employees' pay levels do not fall below those of workers in private industry.

The committee would also serve as a focus for TUC pressure on Government to maintain and increase public sector cash limits. Apart from looking at wider aspects of public sector pay, it would not involve itself in direct pay bargaining.

The decision to approach the TUC was approved yesterday when leaders of public service unions met representatives on the TUC General Council. The request will be made after the TUC conference in September and the signs are that it will be approved.

The initiative came from Mr David Barnett, chairman of the TUC. The committee will be limited to central and local government, the National Health Service, universities, and probably water supply.

Three students charged with murder

Three engineering students from Oman were committed to Perth for trial yesterday, charged with murder. The rare Mohamed Muharar Ali al-Alay, aged 23, Salim al-Kindi, aged 20, and Abdullah al-Kindi, aged 20.

The students, from AST School of Aeronautical Engineering, at Stone, near Perth, had previously appeared at Perth Sheriff Court, accused of attempting to murder Andrew McAulay, aged 24, of Airlie Gardens, Perth.

Mr McAulay died in Nine-wells Hospital, Dundee, on July 20, and the students have been charged with causing his death by kicking him about the face and body.

£410,000 in fund for farmers' winter disaster

By Our Agricultural Correspondent

The Government will offer "a very generous and good assistance" to the thousands of farmers who lost livestock in the storms and floods of the winter of 1977-78, Mr John Silkin, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said yesterday, in a Commons written reply. It will add £300,000 from EEC funds to the £110,000 the farmers' unions have already collected from their members.

Mr Silkin said at a press conference in London that governments usually offered only as much as victims had themselves collected. This time it was going much further.

He expected the number of farmers who would qualify to be about a thousand. "We are not offering compensation, we are offering help to buy new breeding stock," Mr Silkin said.

Company wrong to count man's clothing against him

From Our Correspondent

Birmingham

An employer who told a man to stop wearing jeans and T-shirts to work and wear trousers and the instead been ordered to pay compensation for unfair dismissal.

A Birmingham industrial tribunal has ruled that Mr Marlyn Turner's employer was wrong in counting his clothing against him when they considered dismissal. Mr Turner, aged 22, of Linton Close, Wintares, Redditch, was awarded £612 compensation against Wright's Dental Sales (Birmingham) Ltd.

The company contended that Mr Turner had refused to comply with an order to work in overalls for four days, had been guilty of bad workmanship, and had been dismissed when he finished work early.

Mr Nathan Myers, chairman of the tribunal, said the tribunal accepted that his job as a

service engineer visiting surgeries meant cleanliness his personal clothing was important enough to be allowed to wear jeans.

"He was asked to Guernsey when he returned from honeymoon continued. "He did not go to go; he said he preferred to stay at home."

The company's alleged discrimination was one of referred to a job by Mr Turner. He joined the company were not subordinate Myers said. Mr Turner, competent workman, was working outside his training period on the day he was dismissed. He had been started at 6.15 in the company's best in his doing extra work f jeans at Swindon, as believed responsible for planning there was no time left for a further job at Hereford.

Phasing out private consulting rooms

By Our Health Services Correspondent

It will be January, 1980, before rooms in National Health Service hospitals provided for consultants to see their private patients are phased out in any numbers.

A few consulting rooms, found to be substantially or totally underused, have been closed. The Health Services Board announced yesterday its intention of making a start on gathering information so that it may make decisions on revoking the authorization for use of rooms in more than 400 hospitals.

The board is seeking information from health and hospital authorities and from consultants about alternative accommodation that may be available. The Health Services Act provides that reasonable alternative facilities must be available.

In its letter the board says that failure to take all reasonable steps to provide reasonable accommodation would be ground for it to propose the revocation of private facilities in the hospitals.

Evidence about providing alternative accommodation is invited from all interested parties by January 1, 1979. Details are also requested of the num-

ber of consultations with private patients held in hospital rooms in 1977 and 1978.

Submissions will be considered between February and April 1979. If it is considered that no reasonable steps have been taken about the provision of alternative accommodation, warnings about revoking authorization for use of hospital rooms will be sent out.

Warnings will state the date by which the board will propose revocation. The intention is to submit revocation proposals, followed by warnings, by September 30, 1979, and that they should take effect by January 1, 1980.

£1,200 back pay for police dog handler

Police Constable Melvin Crosby, a dog handler, was awarded £1,200 back pay at Nottingham Crown Court yesterday after maintaining that the Nottinghamshire Police Authority had failed to pay him the full allowance for looking after his animals over the past five years.

Twenty-one other dog handlers on the Nottinghamshire force are also likely to claim back pay. The total might exceed £30,000.

Judge Ellis ruled that Police Constable Crosby should have received the full rate. He brought his case with the backing of the Police Federation. The Nottinghamshire force is considering an appeal.

US company to make Ulster heart device

From Our Correspondent

The Government is to provide industrial development grants and state-funded technology to an American company to produce an advanced cardiac device developed in Belfast, after one of its own agencies had rejected the invention.

It is making available more than £1m and National Health Service finance research to IPCO, a medical equipment company of White Plains, New York, in return for the promise of posts for 280 workers.

The Pantridge miniature defibrillator, the first handheld defibrillating machine, applies an electric shock to the chest of a heart attack victim to stimulate faltering heart beats. It

is to be produced at Bangor, Co. Down, by an IPCO subsidiary, Coronary Care Systems.

The device was developed at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast, by Professor J. F. Pantridge and Mr John Anderson, a senior technician, with the aid of research grants thought to exceed £50,000 from the Medical Research Council and the Department of Health and Social Services. In 1973 executive of the North Ireland Finance Corporation, now the Northern Ireland Development Agency, proposed the establishment of a government company in Ulster to manufacture it.

But the NIDC board, under Sir Charles Villiers, now chairman of British Steel, rejected the proposal. Since 1975 the instrument has been made at Fishbury Park, north London, by Cardiac Recorders Ltd. It has sold many hundreds of the £300 units in the United States, Japan and Europe. The biggest customer was the US Navy, which installed at least one in every ship in its fleet.

There was dismay at Cardiac Recorders yesterday when it was learnt that IPCO, its United States distributor, is forming a subsidiary with Government backing to manufacture the device.

No director was available to comment but Mr David Hayworth, the export manager, said: "We have a franchise on this device and exclusive rights to its manufacture, which I understand has several years to run. It is one of our best-selling lines."

The students, from AST School of Aeronautical Engineering, at Stone, near Perth, had previously appeared at Perth Sheriff Court, accused of attempting to murder Andrew McAulay, aged 24, of Airlie Gardens, Perth.

Mr McAulay died in Nine-wells Hospital, Dundee, on July 20, and the students have been charged with causing his death by kicking him about the face and body.

How to remove the 'anguish' from work

By Trevor Fishlock

In search of a more orderly and happier world, the International Humanist Congress yesterday dared to ask what is usually not asked, except perhaps on grey Monday mornings: What is work for?

The congress, meeting at the London School of Economics, considered, among other obstacles on the road to a better world, the tyranny of the pay packet, the vastness and rapid growth of multinational corporations, the failure of industrial societies to study the environmental penalties of growth, the energy-sapping arms business, and the grip of organised religion in developing countries.

Mr James Dillaway, former senior officer for economic affairs at the United Nations economic commission for Europe, called for new thinking about the way we regard work. Country to popular belief, he said, pay is about death among priorities of workers judging their jobs.

"A large majority in Britain have had fatalism government control over pay and over union leaders' power," he said. "Work is for most people, or could be, a means to self-respect, self-expression and community. Too often the frustration of bureaucracy in a

climate of disorder, plus monotony, bring discontent."

"People contribute to economic society by their employment and draw pay from it to sustain themselves. It is unfortunate that we are taught to equate work and pay as cause and effect."

"If we could remove pay as the criterion of excellence, provide a near equal monetary reward and make the reward and distinction in other ways, we could stimulate choice, remove much of the anguish from work. People are already choosing, thus in some degree when they opt out of highly paid careers or spend much leisure time in unpaid work."

There should be a National Dividend, raised by taxation, paid tax-free to every citizen as a share in the national income. It would replace all income support, including family and student allowances, unemployment benefit, and basic pensioners. It would relieve some poverty, give greater independence to women and answer the question of pay for household work.

"The question of what is the real purpose of work looms large," he said. "Without meaningful achievement, inflated credit, and other stimuli, at least a quarter of

today's work would be purposeless."

"Going beyond this, that world arms production now rises in value to \$40 a year, which equals the income of the poorest cent of the world's population."

"In Britain the cost state of maintaining a employed man and his family about equal to the working income," he said. "He would therefore pay hand if the state could make responsible for employment rather than unemployment, offering genuine jobs in projects, schemes of co-operation, improvement and relation to those able and to accept them."

Mr Dillaway questioned whether the world's population of 4 billion, growing at 2 per cent a year, could sustain the logical evolution of a economic theory geared to an ever-expanding population. He said that pension had led to an insatiable demand for more, and was doomed to frustration cause it sought from work, than was created by work.

WEST EUROPE

Portugal

Aug. 1.—President Spínola gave Portugal's first broadcast to the nation since the collapse of the military dictatorship six days ago. He indicated that he hoped for a renewal of agreement between the two sides.

At an event he would immediately appoint a Prime Minister to succeed Dr. Spínola, the Socialist leader, who had been dismissed by the military.

When the conservative Prime Minister, General Spínola, was dismissed, the military government (CGD) was replaced by a civilian government. But Dr. Spínola's party, the Socialists, rejected a military government as a solution. He did not believe that the military would follow him.

Under old laws and under a new constitution, a referendum would be held to decide whether to remain a republic or to become a monarchy. The referendum would be held within 90 days of dissolution of the parliament.

Dr. Spínola said, however, that he considered the possibility of a referendum. He said that he would not accept a referendum unless it was held within 90 days of dissolution of the parliament.



Square-bashing with a difference for French Air Force recruits at Metz Fressaty where the drill sergeants are women.

France seeks Algerian friendship on Sahara

From Our Own Correspondent Paris, Aug. 1.

President Giscard d'Estaing is working actively for a settlement in the western Sahara. Last week he received two ministers of the new Mauritanian regime of Colonel Ould Sidiyeh, which has openly come out in favour of peace in the Polisario rebels. Today, he is meeting for the second time within just over a fortnight Mr. Abdelaziz Bouteflika, the Algerian Foreign Minister.

Mr. Bouteflika asked to see the French President after the OAU summit in Khartoum which has set up a committee of five "wise men" to study all the aspects of the western Sahara problem. This was announced yesterday by the Algerian Press Agency, which also published the text of President Giscard d'Estaing's letter to President Bouteflika, in reply to the unusually cordial one from the Algerian head of state.

"Like you, I am convinced that co-operation between our two countries is in the natural order of things, and in this spirit the French Government proposed our relations should be the object of an overall examination. As you know, I attach great importance to maintaining an open dialogue between Algeria and France. I hope this renewed dialogue will be continued for the very reason that trusting relations between the two countries are necessary to the equilibrium of a region to which they both belong."

The French President's message has been welcomed in Algeria, where it is regarded as "warm" and "positive". It does not mean that everything is plain sailing between the two countries, Algeria sharply attacked French intervention in Africa at Khartoum, and at the conference of non-aligned nations in Belgrade.

The western Sahara conflict is only one of the causes of friction between them. Algeria has given active support to the Polisario rebels, with the obvious objective of bringing down the moderate regime of former President Mokhtar Ould Daddah in Nouakchott, through the withdrawal of French technicians and the economic collapse of the country; and encouraging the takeover by a "socialist" type regime, within its sphere of influence.

A just solution: After his talk with the President, Mr. Bouteflika held an impromptu press conference in which he emphasized that the situation in the western Sahara was evolving favourably towards a "just solution which could reconcile the rights of some and the interests of others."

It would be "stupid to exclude from a peace settlement so important a country as Morocco". Not only France, but Algeria too had important relations with Morocco. "There is a dynamism of peace. We Algerians shall not assume responsibility for discouraging it," he said.

Full inquiry into Moro death urged

From Our Own Correspondent Rome, Aug. 1.

Demands are growing for a parliamentary inquiry into the kidnapping and murder of Aldo Moro, the former Prime Minister, including a decision today from the national executive of the Republican Party and the publication of a Bill put forward by a member of the Christian Democracy Party for a joint inquiry by the Senate and the Chamber.

These moves come after a similar call yesterday from Signor Giacomo Mancini, a leading Socialist. The Christian Democracy Party's national council had earlier decided to insist on a more thorough investigation of the kidnapping and the murder by the security services.

The body of Signor Moro, chairman of the Christian Democracy Party and architect of the present parliamentary majority which includes the Communists, was found on May 9. He had been held prisoner for 32 days by a group claiming to belong to the Red Brigades terrorists.

The Bill introduced by Signor Carlo Fracanzani, a left-wing Christian Democrat, calls for a commission of 30 senators and deputies to study the possible aspects of the kidnapping and killing of Moro and report within six months.

Among other questions, he wants an investigation into allegations that Signor Moro had been threatened and warned before his kidnapping that he should abandon political life. He wants also to know why Signor Moro had travelled in a car which was not bullet proof.

Rome, Aug. 1.—The Communist-dominated municipal council of Rome has unanimously approved a proposal to name a city square after Signor Moro and to name five streets after his bodyguards killed in the kidnapping.

Wrong boycott scheme to beat blackers is worked out

Our Own Correspondent Aug. 1.

Practical application of a traffic boycott which would force the seven governments to impose sanctions against countries which harbour terrorists was being discussed here today.

The agreement, the first step in a series of measures against terrorism, will stop all air and sea travel to and from a country which refuses to punish or return hijackers or to return aircraft. They will also landing rights to any aircraft which they point of view.

Helmut Schmidt, the Chancellor, said afterwards that the boycott could be put into action within a couple of hours. But it became immediately clear that some procedure or mechanism should be worked out to ensure that it could swing into action quickly and without difficulty.

The experts, who end their meeting tomorrow, are expected to make provisions for other countries which wish to take part. The seven summit leaders called on other governments to join them and Austria has already said it is willing to do so. Denmark has shown an interest and is understood here to be taking up the question with Sweden and Norway with whom it operates a joint airline.

Police in Cologne seek missing Romanian envoy

Cologne, Aug. 1.—A search is being made for Ion Pacepa, a 50-year-old Romanian diplomat who has been missing since last Friday.

Police said the Romanian Embassy in Cologne had asked their help in finding Mr. Pacepa, who is described only as a "high official" at the embassy. There was no indication that he had been kidnapped and at the moment they were treating it as a normal "missing persons" case.

Mr. Pacepa does not appear in the list of Romanian embassy personnel included in the official diplomatic list. He was last seen on Friday at the Cologne hotel where he has lived since July 24.—Reuter.

Belgians protest over big fare increases

Brussels, Aug. 1.—Belgian consumer and commuters' organizations demonstrated in Brussels and other cities against a big increase in fares today.

The biggest increase was for the Brussels public transport system, where the price of a ticket, regardless of the length of the journey, rose from 15 Belgian francs (23p) to 20 francs (30p).

In Liège protesting passengers in one industrial suburb simply refused to pay anything but the traditional flat rate of 149 francs to allow them to travel free for the day.—AP.

African playing bigger role at UN

Peter Nicholas Aug. 1.

Vatican is much taken the importance of the African role in the work of the United Nations. Indeed its observer, Mr. Gioacchino Giamatti, will go back to New York for the autumn session with the newly conferred rank of archbishop.

energy and his genuine interest in the work of the United Nations has contributed to the decision by the Holy See to send its representative to the UN.

difference between Mr. Giamatti and his predecessor has been emphasized by publication of a novel espionage story in the United States in which the central character is a KGB agent disguised as the permanent representative of the Vatican; for the author is none other than Giovanni Giamatti, who is a Vatican diplomat, who in 1965, he sent a permanent representative to the UN, concluded a disarmament session, which was read by Agostino Casaroli, the

Vatican's leading figure in international relations.

Mr. Giamatti is in this line: a personal friend of Mr. Casaroli, he believes in the importance of the work in New York and has had personal encouragement from the Pope. His reporting is full. His dispatches cover in particular the meetings of the Security Council, questions of human rights, population, environment, education, disarmament and peace in general.

He explains that the Holy See is better served by being an observer rather than a full member. Membership would involve voting and taking part in political decisions, while membership with a self-denying ordinance not to vote would be hardly comprehensible to other delegations. He also believes that contacts with communist representatives may have the effect of sowing seeds which may later be harvested.

The main criticism heard in New York about the Vatican's permanent representation is that it takes its own description too seriously, and so just observes when it might have participated more, especially on such issues as the North-South dialogue and the whole issue of the developed and developing world. That criticism was partly answered when Herr Willy Brandt, the former West German Chancellor, saw the Pope on July 14 as chairman of the International Commission for Development and was

told that the Holy See wanted to help the commission actively in its work.

All this is an ocean away from the theme of Mr. Giamatti's novel, with its total scepticism about the effectiveness of the United Nations. His leading character tells the Cardinal-Secretary of State that the United Nations is "a waste of time even if the phrase may sound strong."

He calls the novel *Requiem for a Spy*. It has some of the characteristics of the spy story: the FBI and the KGB are involved, so are two sexy Israeli girls and the traditional dialogue is not forgotten as when someone remarks of a taxi-driver under interrogation that "he changes his story more often than his underpants."

But essentially it is a religious story. The KGB agent, who impersonates the Vatican observer, gradually assumes the part he is playing and after a religious experience ends as a Christian martyr in the Lushanka prison (and at least one of the Israeli girls looks set for conversion).

This does not alter the fact that the author has challenged two aspects of Vatican policy: the official feeling that the mission to the United Nations is of great importance; and the Vatican view that negotiation with the communists is possible. The whole point of the novel is that conversion can do what argument can never achieve.

Indians continue to flood into Berlin for asylum

From Our Correspondent Berlin, Aug. 1.

The number of people seeking asylum in West Berlin rose sharply again last month; 1,491 new applicants were registered and in addition, 3,522 persons reapplied for asylum having failed at their first attempt.

The majority are from Pakistan, India, Lebanon and Jordan. Arrivals from these countries increased from between 3,000 and 3,500 in June to more than 5,000 in July.

Indians now constitute the next largest group to the Pakistanis among would-be immigrants.

Officials believe that unscrupulous people and concerns in India are following a practice adopted in Pakistan of persuading people to sell their belongings and to emigrate to West Berlin by dangling in front of them the carrot that social benefits there are greater than the money they could earn at home.

OVERSEAS

Dr Castro ready to answer call for military help by any of Africa's five 'front-line' states

Lusaka, Aug. 1.—President Castro of Cuba has promised military assistance to southern African "front-line" states, according to reports reaching here from Havana.

Dr Castro was reported as having told African journalists that Cuba would come to the aid of Zambia, Angola, Tanzania, Botswana and Mozambique if they asked for military help.

"Any attack on front-line states by the fascist regimes in southern Africa is also an attack on Cuba and we will not sit by watching our African brothers suffering," he was quoted as saying.

Meanwhile, nationalist sources here confirmed that more than 2,000 fighters for Mr. Joshua Nkomo's Zimbabwe African People's Union were in the Patriotic Front have been trained by Cubans in Angola and flown to Zulu camps.

Frederick Cleary writes from Salisbury: The Supreme Commander of the Rhodesian security forces, General Peter Walls, today defended his forces' two-day attack on Mozambique during which 10 guerrilla bases were destroyed.

He said he had had clear instructions from the transitional Government in Salisbury to create conditions in which free and fair general elections could be held in Rhodesia later in the year. It was not aggression, he said.

Dr David Owen, Britain's Foreign Secretary, said that the permission for the attack was not sought from the Rhodesian four-man Executive Council, three of whose members are black.

He said that the Executive Council members—Mr. Ian Smith, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, the Rev Nkomo and Chief Jeremiah Chirau—were informed at the time the attack was launched. They were told that the security forces were carrying out Government instructions, General said. He denied that the security forces had killed children or attacked a school, as Mozambique has said.

"We went out of our way to avoid killing women and local civilians," The main purpose of the operation was to disrupt the activities of guerrillas and their camps in Mozambique, to cause fear among them and prevent them from operating against the Government of Rhodesia.

The security forces also knew that a force of 2,700, freshly trained guerrillas had entered Mozambique from Tanzania and had been split up into regiments 900-strong ready to infiltrate Rhodesia. More incursions into Mozambique would be launched if deemed necessary.

The General described as "absolute rubbish" reports in the British press that there was a panic in Rhodesia and that authorities were preparing military corridors to evacuate white Rhodesians in the South African border at Beitbridge.

Referring to a recent report in The Times in which Mr. James Willie wrote that "guerrillas were in control of large areas of the country and people could not travel around without their permission," General Walls said Mr. Willie had obviously picked up some information about Salisbury's ceasefire operation in which the "guerrillas" were in fact working for the Government.

The General called them "IGF—Internal Government Forces."

He said that "killer groups" had been sent into Rhodesia to eliminate black members of the transitional Government. The men shot recently in a house in the Salisbury Highfield African township were part of such a group, he said.

Roger Berthoud writes: On the eve of the House of Commons debate on Rhodesia, Dr. Steke Mwale, Foreign Minister of Zambia, said yesterday on his way through London that he hoped the Conservatives would not make Rhodesia an election issue.

"All the successive British governments, Labour and Conservative, have contributed to the situation in Rhodesia," he told The Times. "All of them have failed to resolve the Rhodesian problem."

Dr Mwale said Zambia still

Suspected cases of smallpox in Eritrea

Khartoum, Aug. 1.—Two cases of smallpox have been detected among refugees fleeing to Sudan from Ethiopia's Eritrea Province, relief officials said today. The cases, if confirmed, would dash hopes that the disease had been eradicated from the earth.

The World Health Organization (WHO) had hoped its extensive campaign in Somalia last year had wiped out smallpox. The last recorded case was found at the Somali port of Merca last October. No smallpox cases had been recorded in Sudan since last summer, officials in Khartoum said.

The most dangerous form of the disease, *Varicella major*, has been wiped out, and WHO officials believe the only possible remaining pockets of resistance could be in the Horn of Africa.—Reuter.

Our Geneva Correspondent writes: WHO is offering a \$1,000 reward for notification of a case of smallpox in any country. The offer is valid from now until final certification of global eradication of the disease. This will be two years after the last reported case.

In pointing out that laboratory tests of *Varicella virus* now appear to be the only possible source of the smallpox virus, WHO has listed the 14 laboratories still holding such stocks. These are in South Africa (1); the United States (3); West Germany (3); the Soviet Union (1); The Netherlands (1); Britain (3); Japan (1); and China ("more than one").

The World Health Assembly last month requested that all laboratories with stocks of the virus should destroy them or transfer them to WHO collecting centres. Some 62 laboratories have already done this since 1975.

About 70 governments all outside Europe and North America, still officially require persons entering their territory to have valid vaccination certificates. Only 17 countries, including Britain, the United States and Canada, have so far abolished compulsory vaccination of infants. France still insists on it.

Rhodesian sentenced to be hanged

Salisbury, Aug. 1.—A young white Rhodesian who staged a double murder and robbery to look like a black nationalist guerrilla attack has been sentenced to be hanged.

Eric James, aged 32, was convicted in the High Court of shooting the manager and secretary of the Arcurus mine, near Salisbury, and robbing them of the mine payroll of £20,000.

The weapon, a Soviet-made AK automatic rifle and the Yugoslav ammunition are of a type used by black nationalist guerrillas in their war against the Rhodesian Government.

The court was told that Mr. James had acquired them from a friend who had been in the army. He had modified the bullets into a dum-dum variety, nothing the heads to give maximum spread on impact, the court heard.

Mr. Angus Fadness, aged 61, a mine manager, and Mr. Virgil Baker, aged 34, the secretary, were ambushed on their way to the mine on January 31. Their bullet-riddled bodies and car were found in a field off the main Arcurus road, just outside Salisbury.

Mr. James' lawyers initially announced they had been killed by guerrillas in the closest reported attack to the capital. A few days later the military retracted the statement and Mr. James, a South African-born engineer at the mine, was charged.—Reuter.

Americans puzzled by Mr Sadat's return to harder line on talks with the Israelis Middle East peace hopes vanish

From Christopher Walker Cairo, Aug. 1.

A new mood of pessimism about the chances of an agreed peace in the Middle East is finding expression in Cairo diplomatic circles, with few observers willing to predict that the American Government will be prepared to put the kind of pressure on the Israelis that Egypt is demanding.

The sudden evaporation of even the modest hopes expressed at the time of last month's tripartite talks at Camp David has been accompanied by increasing irritation between Egyptian and American officials. On the Egyptian side, there is a strong feeling that unfair attempts are being made to put pressure on the Government to make part in another round of negotiation which have no chance of success and which would further jeopardize President Sadat's standing in the Arab world.

The Americans for their part make little secret of being both puzzled and let down by the new hard line taken by President Sadat and his senior ministers. The Americans concede that the latest Middle East tour of Mr Cyrus Vance, the United States Secretary of State, will have a different outcome from the previous weekend when it was first mooted after the Leeds Castle meeting.

At the outset, the tour was intended as a preliminary to direct negotiations at foreign ministers' level, to begin on Sunday week in an American monitoring station in Sinai. Now, American officials concede that there is no chance of the talks beginning as originally scheduled. After Mr Sadat's refusal to talk again without a change in the Israeli position on occupied land, no new date for a meeting has been set.

Mr Vance will arrive in Alexandria on Monday for what is confidently expected to be the toughest round of discussions he has ever held with the Egyptian leader. A foretaste of the unbending stand being adopted by Egypt was given on Sunday when Mr Roy Atherton, the American special envoy, talks with Mr Sadat, which were later described in diplomatic parlance as "beating". Before leaving for Israel today, Mr Atherton met again Mr Muhammad Kamel, the Egyptian Foreign Minister.

The Egyptian Government believes that it has stated its attitude towards the resumption of direct negotiations fairly and clearly. Diplomatic observers here have no doubt that without receiving the assurance about Arab land and sovereignty which has been demanded, President Sadat will stick to his resolution and maintain pressure on the

Carter Administration in put forward a peace package of its own.

Against this background, there is growing speculation that the ground is being laid for the calling of some form of Arab summit which would permit Mr Sadat to set aside his deadlocked peace initiative without suffering the personal humiliation apparently being asked by the hard-line states, particularly Syria.

It has long been believed by Western diplomats throughout the Middle East that the catalyst for such a move would be Saudi Arabia, which has been idling in recent weeks that the time for refraining Arab unity is rapidly approaching.

Treason trial: President Sadat was put "on trial" in Baghdad in his absence today, accused of high treason.

The 6,300-word indictment, filed by the Arab People's Congress, which groups leftist organizations and opponents of Mr Sadat's peace initiative, asked the Arab People's Court to strip him of his Egyptian nationality and deprive him of his wealth.

Mr Ahmad Abdual, of the three-member "prosecution" team, said that Mr Sadat's long history of "treason" has not seen a traitor who so treacherously stabbed Egypt in its most sacred part.—Reuter.

Swapo and Pretoria at odds over Namibia timetable

From Nicholas Ashford Johannesburg, Aug. 1.

Within Africa's final endorsement of the Western settlement plan for Namibia (South West Africa), both South Africa and the South West Africa Peoples' Organization (SWAPO) have deep differences over how they foresee the plan's implementation.

Mr Sam Nujoma, Swapo's leader, has stated that his guerrillas will not cease hostilities until South African troops have been confined to base, political prisoners released and all discriminatory legislation repealed.

The South Africans have responded by saying that the implementation of the whole plan depends on a cessation of hostilities. According to the Western proposals both South African and Swapo forces should be first confined to base. The withdrawal of South African forces from the territory would only begin once a ceasefire had been established.

This is one of many issues to be resolved by Maatla Ahtisaari, Vice-President of the United Nations special representative, who is due in Windhoek this weekend, and Mr Justice Martinus Steyn, the South African-appointed Administrator-General.

Afrikaans newspapers, which normally reflect Government thinking, made the point today that South Africa's acceptance was conditional on the plan being fully implemented. If the Western countries failed to ensure that Swapo and the

other parties involved kept their side of the bargain, South Africa was still prepared to withdraw.

South Africa's deep distrust of Swapo (a feeling that is mutual) was shared by Pastor Cornelius Ndjoba, president of the multi-ethnic Democratic Turnhalle Alliance (DTA) and chief minister of the majority Ovambo tribe. He said today he would consider calling additional South African troops into Ovambo if the present wave of "Swapo Terrorism" did not stop.

Mr Ndjoba has probably most at stake of the internally-based leaders in the event of free and fair elections, as Swapo's support is strongest among the Ovambos.

New York, Aug. 1.—An advance party of United Nations officials will leave for Namibia tomorrow to prepare for the arrival on Saturday of a 50-member team.

The United Nations is expected to mount a big operation in the territory involving the presence of some 5,000 troops and about 1,000 civilians to help keep the peace and supervise elections during the period leading to independence.

Mr Ahtisaari said his team expected to spend two to three weeks in Namibia. His itinerary was still being worked out, but he expected to meet Mr Justice Steyn.

He is generally acknowledged as the success of the Western independence plan depends heavily on a good working relationship between Mr Ahtisaari and Mr Steyn.—Reuter.

Iran denies that prisoners are being tortured

Teheran, Aug. 1.—Mr Daryush Homayun, the Iranian Minister of Information, today denied recent allegations that prisoners were being tortured.

The charges were made in a recent statement by an organization called Iranian Society for Defence of Liberty and Human Rights. Mr Homayun said that the Government did not recognize the organization.

Mr Khalilullah Rezaei, a 17-year-old daughter was arrested for writing an essay against the regime.

Mr Homayun denied this and said that two sons of Mr Rezaei, Ahmad and Reza, who had been the founders of the underground terrorist organization Islamic Marxists, were killed in 1975 in a fight with security agents. A third son, Mehdi, who had formed a new terrorist organization, was sentenced to death for murder.

One of Mr Rezaei's daughters was killed in a clash with the police as she was detonating a hand grenade, the minister said. Three other daughters were jailed for belonging to an organization called Guerrillas Popular Dervishes.

The minister said that 50 theology students and some religious leaders were exiled from their home towns under the security law for instigating riots.

Asked how many political prisoners there were in Iran, Mr Homayun said that the 2,100 prisoners described as political prisoners by the West were actually terrorists, spies or Islamic Marxists guilty of subversion.—AP, Reuter.

Argentine bomb kills daughter of Vice-Admiral

From Our Correspondent Buenos Aires, Aug. 1.

In the most serious terrorist attack of the year, a bomb this morning destroyed the flat of Vice-Admiral Armando Lambruschini, killing his daughter, aged 15, and severely injuring neighbours. The Vice-Admiral is Chief of Staff of the Argentine Navy and Commander-in-Chief of the service.

The bomb had been placed in the block of flats next door where one flat with an adjoining wall was unoccupied.

Bhutto illness being ignored, lawyer claims

From Our Correspondent Islamabad, Aug. 1.

Mr Bhutto, the former Pakistan Prime Minister, who has been in jail since September under sentence of death for murder, is suffering from chest pains and profuse nosebleeds his counsel told the Supreme Court today.

Mr Yahya Bakhtiar, Mr Bhutto's solicitor, said in his current appeal against the sentence, said the authorities had ignored requests for urgent medical tests and treatment.

THE TIMES GUEST COOK

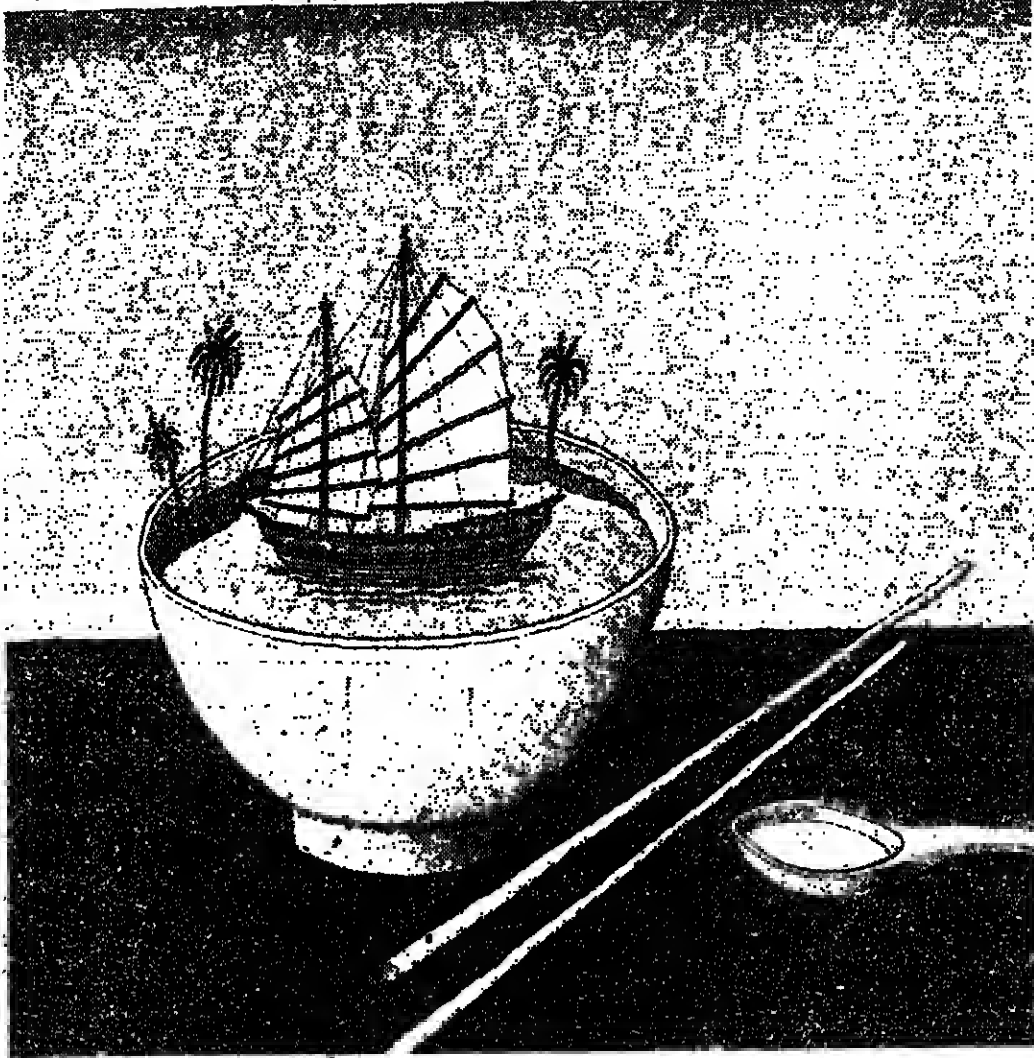
Marika Hanbury Tenison explores the taste sensations of the Far East

Good cooking is not just a matter of taste, texture and presentation but, perhaps above all, a matter of smell: not the smell of stale cabbage drifting through a boarding house but the tantalising, evocative scents that waft from the doors of a good delicatessen; from the basement gratings of a five star restaurant, from a farmhouse kitchen when baking is in progress, or from freshly picked fruit still warm from the sun. The aroma of food comes first, before you see or taste a dish and frequently that aroma leaves a stronger memory than the actual flavour or texture of the food itself. Smell is the one, great secret ingredient, missing from so much of the instant, packaged and convenience foods of today.

The moment I set foot in the Far East I became deliciously drunk on the fragrant, mouth-watering smell of fresh and cooked ingredients that pervades every street, alley and market. That first evening spent in the "Cold Storage Market" in Singapore had my taste buds whirling. I was in a cookery writer's heaven surrounded by a kaleidoscope of confusing scents, flavours, textures, combinations and taste sensations. Wandering around the outdoor, cooked food market one could choose from a thousand marvellous ribs and mini-meals where the food was all prepared and cooked to order. Fish, meat and poultry barks and dumplings steamed in bamboo baskets, tender strips of flesh sizzled over open fires, clams smelt of the ocean and eggs were tossed with a dozen elusive ingredients to make an omelette that could only be called sensational.

In Jakarta I found yet another astonishing wealth of exotic and memorable food in a city where almost all the cuisines of the world can be tasted. French restaurants of a very high standard rub shoulders with the simple sophistication of Japanese cuisine, fresh ingredients are in abundance and there is a catch of Java the melting pot of a miscellany of different cultures, you can indulge in almost any culinary craving you desire. The greatest food sensation of all, however, must surely be their Rijstafel based on the traditional dishes of Indonesia but transformed by Dutch colonists into a vast, elegant feast comprising no less than 20 or 30 highly spiced dishes of meat, poultry, vegetables, eggs and fruit that is served with rice and, ideally, eaten under a star studded velvet sky while you watch an incredible performance of colourful Balinese dancers, an experience too perfect to be "corny".

At dawn I visited the fish markets and in the evenings wandered down small back streets where the bulk of the Jakartans buy their cooked



evening meal because fuel is expensive and more often than not they live in conditions which do not even run to a stove. The smells (always evocative, enticing and mouth-watering) tempted me to try a bowl of oodles with shrimp and shredded vegetables, mini-kebabs of lamb, beef or chicken, dipped into richly flavoured sauce or fritters cooked in the crispest of batters. Coals glowed from battered buckets, kerosene stoves flamed under, heavy woks and street vendors carried round containers of steaming soups hanging from a pole across their shoulders. At one stall you find Malaysian food, at another, Chinese and at a third, Indian.

In the Moluccas, the Spice Islands, butters drip from trees, bay crabs are cooked with green glaze, I ate soft-boiled turtle's eggs for breakfast, inhaled the delicious scent of cloves spread on rattan mats to dry in the sun and bought a supply of anise, mace and cinnamon for pence rather than pounds.

And it was in the Moluccas that I really began to understand about food for the first time. We had been picked up by a Chinese junk trading among

the small islands, the crew were on the breadline, living on little more than a handful of rice and a little fish a day, we carried no provisions and they had no way to sell us. For five days we fasted, existing on only a mug of weak, milk and sugarless tea each morning. On the fourth day I began to dream and hallucinate about the taste, smell and texture of good food and began to understand what eating was all about. I learnt to appreciate everything I ate, to treat each meal with respect, savouring it, no longer merely taking the pleasure of good food for granted. To be a good cook, discoverer, one must not only be greedy but also know what it is to be truly hungry as well.

A second trip, with my explorer husband, took me to Borneo and to yet another whole food scene, with an exciting amalgamation of different Eastern cuisines under an umbrella of pure Malaysian cooking, full of the inspired and well-tried use of spices and the brilliant economical use of meat, poultry, fish and vegetables combining, and retaining the best quality and texture of each and frequently drawing for inspiration on a subtle use of the spices and flavourings used in Indian cooking.

second dish and the carcass to be turned into valuable chicken stock.

The light curry dishes, too, from that part of the world are extremely popular here at home, they do not burn the mouth or lift off the top of your head, they merely titillate the palate adding an even greater enjoyment to a meal.

The Indonesians go in for sweetmeats and sugary confections, but on the whole, the meals I had in Malaysia and Indonesia tended to finish with what must surely be one of the most satisfactory endings of all, fresh fruit. Here again there is a difference because the fruit is not left whole but beautifully prepared, peeled and cut into large cubes or wedges, wedges so that it can be speared on a toothpick and eaten without any trouble at all. Melons, white and red, are peeled and seeded and cut into slices, chunks; crisp apples, pears and pineapples are peeled, cored, cut into eight and sprinkled with lemon juice and smaller fruit have their stems removed and are strung onto thin eight inch wooden kebab sticks. The fruit is served really well chilled, straight from the refrigerator or resting on a bed of ice cubes.

Because so many Far Eastern dishes are quickly cooked, save fuel the best cooking utensil is a Chinese wok, a light, round bottomed frying pan which spreads a high heat evenly over its surface. You can buy woks and their stands from Chinese supermarkets or good kitchen shops and you use them over gas, or best of all, over a high speed camping stove. No wok... then use a large, heavy frying pan instead.

Mix your own curry powders to prevent that bland, soapy and over-all flavouring which comes from using a commercial mixture; you can either grind them to a pestle and mortar or an electric food processor or buy the spices ready ground from good delicatessens or specialists in Indian spices (being imported from India) and use them as a base for your own. If you try serving a Rijstafel, find it a success and want to repeat the experience you might feel it is worth buying a couple of inexpensive (being imported from India) and use them as a base for your own. If you try serving a Rijstafel, find it a success and want to repeat the experience you might feel it is worth buying a couple of inexpensive (being imported from India) and use them as a base for your own.

Cutting and chopping in all the dishes of this kind of cuisine is always an essential part of the preparation so use really good quality knives and sharpen them regularly. Having them every time you use them.

Home saied peanuts with garlic

Crisp, flavoured nibbles to have with drinks or to serve as a side dish to a curry.

8 ozs (225g) peanuts in their skins; 2 large cloves garlic; deep oil for frying; 2 teaspoons salt.

Peel the garlic and cut the cloves into slivers. Heat the oil until just smoking, add the peanuts and garlic and cook for only a few minutes until the peanuts and garlic are crunchy and golden. Drain on kitchen paper and sprinkle with salt.

Nasi goreng

(Spiced, fried rice)

This is an Indonesian staple dish to be served alone or with other dishes to make a Rijstafel.

To cook the rice, wash it in cold water, place it in a large, heavy pan with double the volume of cold water to rice and a teaspoon of salt. Bring slowly to the boil, stir once, cover very tightly and cook over a low heat (without re-covering the lid) for exactly 20 minutes. Fluff up the rice with a fork to let the air in and steam out. The lid can be put on again and the rice

will keep warm on the side of the stove for an hour or more. Serves 8

1lb (450g) long grain rice cooked as above; 4 fresh chili peppers (or 2 dried chili peppers); 1 medium onion; 3 cloves garlic; 1 teaspoon coriander seeds; 3 tablespoons vegetable oil; 8oz (225g) peeled prawns; 8oz (225g) cooked, shredded beef, pork or chicken; 2 tablespoons soy sauce; 1 teaspoon brown sugar; 1 teaspoon anchovy essence; 2 tablespoons chicken stock; 1oz (40g) butter.

Finely chop the chili peppers (remove the seeds if you prefer the dish not to be too hot). Peel and finely chop the onion and the garlic. Crush the peppers, onion, garlic and coriander to a paste in a pestle and mortar or blend in a liquidizer or food processor. Mix together the soy sauce, sugar and anchovy essence.

Heat the oil in a large frying pan or a wok until a base rises from it. Add the onion paste, stir and cook over a medium heat until the paste is golden brown. Add the soy sauce, mixture and meat, beat through and mix in the rice, stock and butter, tossing over a medium high heat until the rice is well coated. Garnish for Nasi Goreng. Peel half a cucumber and cut it into small dice. Fry two very finely chopped onions in very hot vegetable oil until they are well browned and crisp. Drain well on kitchen paper. Beat an egg lightly and season it with salt and pepper. Heat a little oil in a small frying pan, add the egg mixture and cook over a medium heat until the omelette is lightly browned on the bottom. Cool and cut into very thin strips. Lightly beat a second egg, season and mix in four very finely chopped spring onions. Cook the second omelette as the first, cool and cut into strips. Scatter the crisp onions, diced cucumber and omelette strips over the Nasi Goreng before serving. Enough for 4 servings

Sate manis

(Mini kebabs)

1lb (450g) rump steak, pork fillet or chicken breast; salt and freshly ground black pepper; 1½ tablespoons lemon juice; 1 tablespoon honey; 2½ tablespoons vegetable oil; 1

onion; 2 cloves garlic; 2 fresh or 1 dried chili pepper; 4 tablespoons peanut butter; 1 tablespoon soft brown sugar; 1 tablespoon soy sauce.

Cut the meat into thin slices and then into strips about 3 inch wide. Place the strips between two layers of greaseproof paper and beat them gently with the back of a knife to flatten them. Place the meat in a bowl, add the onion, garlic and chili to a bowl, season with salt and pepper and pour over the honey mixed with 1½ tablespoons lemon juice and 1½ tablespoons oil, mix well and leave to marinate for four hours or overnight.

Peel and very finely chop the onion and garlic. Remove the seeds from the chili pepper and finely chop the flesh. Heat one tablespoon of oil in a small pan. Add the onion, garlic and chili to the pan, stir and cook for about 10 minutes until the ingredients are cooked through. Season with salt and mix in the peanut butter, sugar and enough water to make a thick sauce. Add the lemon juice and soy sauce and cook over a medium heat for about eight minutes until the sauce is rich and glossy.

Slide the marinated strips of meat or poultry, ribbon fashion, on to the skewers, spreading out the strips so that they are almost flat and grill them over a hot charcoal or under a fierce grill, turning the kebabs every now and then, and cooking them for just long enough for the meat to become tender (this will only be a matter of minutes).

Spread out the kebabs on a serving dish, pour a little of the sauce over each one and serve the remaining sauce separately for the kebabs to be dipped into. You can also serve a sauce of Dijon mustard thinned with some warm water and a little Tabasco and Worcestershire sauce.

Sajur tjampruk

(Vegetable soup)

Vegetable soup, fairly thick and very aromatic, is almost always served with a Rijstafel. The soup is poured over the rice making a marvellously well flavoured combination. Texture is all important and the ingredients should only be cooked through. Makes 6 servings

1 small onion; 2 cloves garlic; 4ozs (100g) raw chicken; 1 inch diagonal strips about one inch wide. Peel and very finely chop the onion. Peel and very finely chop the garlic. Peel and very finely chop the

12ozs (350g) white drumhead cabbage; 6ozs (175g) runner or French beans; 1 stick celery; 4ozs (100g) bean sprouts; 1 large, ripe tomato; 2 bay leaves; salt and white pepper; soy sauce; 4ozs (50g) fine Chinese noodles; 1½ tablespoons vegetable oil; 3 pints good chicken stock.

Peel and very very thinly slice the onion. Peel and crush the garlic. Cut the chicken into very thin matchstick strips. Peel the ginger and chop it very, very finely. Very thinly slice the cabbage. Thinly slice the runner or French beans. Very thinly slice the celery. Peel the tomato, covering it with boiling water for one minute, draining it and sliding off the skin; remove the core and seeds and chop the flesh. Cook the noodles in boiling, salted water until just tender and drain well.

Heat the oil in a large, heavy pan. Add the onion and garlic and cook over a medium heat until the onion is lightly browned. Add the chicken and ginger, stir well, cover and cook over a low heat for three minutes. Add the stock, bring to the boil, mix in the bean sprouts, tomato, bay leaves and soy sauce, season with a little salt and pepper and cook for about 6 minutes or until the vegetables are just tender but still crisp. Remove the bay leaves, stir in the cooked noodles and serve very hot.

This is an excellent way to cook a rather greasy fish like mackerel. The fish is just as good served cold as it is hot and it you want to combine the flavours of the East and the West, I find it is delicious as a first course served cold with a marvellous spiced cold with some French Dijon mustard.

Serves 6 as a main dish or 8-10 as part of a Rijstafel.

Marinated fish

6 medium mackerel; 4 tablespoons vegetable oil; 3 tablespoons lemon juice; 1 onion; 4 cloves garlic; 1 inch fresh ginger root; 4 fresh green chilli; 1 teaspoon ground turmeric; salt and ground black pepper.

Fillet the mackerel (or ask your fishmonger to do this for you). Cut the fillets into diagonal strips about one inch wide. Peel and very finely chop the onion. Peel and very finely chop the garlic. Peel and very finely chop the

ginger. Remove the seeds of the chili and very finely chop the flesh. Combine the oil, lemon juice, onion, garlic and chili pepper in a liquidizer or food processor, season with salt and pepper and process until the mixture is reduced to a paste (this can be done in a pestle and mortar). Place the marinade in a non-metallic bowl, add the pieces of fish and mix well. Cover and refrigerate for at least four hours.

Remove the fish strips from the marinade and either grill them over hot charcoal, under a high grill or in a pan with a little very hot oil, until they are crisp and golden on both sides.

Serve the fish with wedges of lemon on the side. You can use the same marinade for white fish or salmon steaks.

Sambal tomat

(Hot tomato sauce for accompanying rice and curry dishes.)

1 clove garlic; 2 red chili peppers; 1 tablespoon warm water; 2 large, ripe tomatoes; 1 teaspoon anchovy essence.

Peel and crush the garlic. Remove the seeds from the chili peppers and crush the flesh. Soak the chilies in warm water for 10 minutes. Cover the tomatoes with boiling water for one minute, drain and slide off the skins. Remove the core and seeds and chop the flesh. Combine all the ingredients and mix well.

Pisang goreng

At street stalls these are often made from whole bananas dipped into a light batter and then fried but I find these mashed banana fritters easier to make and keep crisp at home. Serves 4

4 ripe bananas; 4ozs (100g) flour; pinch salt; 2 tablespoons caster sugar; pinch cinnamon; sugar; oil for frying; lemon juice.

Mash the bananas with a fork. Add the flour, salt and sugar and beat well with a wooden spoon. Heat 1 inch oil in a heavy frying pan, add a tablespoon at a time of the batter mixture and cook over a high heat, turning half way through the cooking time, until the fritters are crisp and golden brown on both sides. Drain the fritters on kitchen paper. Sprinkle with lemon juice, more sugar and a little powdered cinnamon before serving.

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THE ARTS

Youth and the passage of time

Rosenkavalier
Salzburg Festival

Higgins

ock stands at the very edge of the stage during the act of the new production of *Rosenkavalier* which this year's Salzburg Festival has chosen to present. The rest of the set, by the way, is very much as Hofmannsthal required it. The curtain is half drawn over the stage, revealing the Marcellin and Octavian on a at the feet of his mistress, Strauss's prelude to an end; whether the allowed themselves time to occasion to get beneath the covers is open to debate. On the other side of the stage table where the Baron goes through the deeds of his forefathers, the forthcoming marriage giving them the which brings the Tenor's aria to an end. That clock is at the core of the production. *Rosenkavalier* is with the passage of time, with the machinery that is ticking and the hands continue moving how the Marcellin e to rise in the middle night and stop the march of the hours. In Janowitz's first Salzburg production indicates the start that her prime age in the past. A false of the roses from the lesser Hippolyte and she as an old woman, then Octavian has left her to the silver rose to the palace, she realizes a place is to visit her slaves like Uncle Grell, who is decaying and young else is making tho if their youth, or what s of it. Baron Och's less bloated shape than to the form of Kurt who is anxious to prove he is still traces of age, if vulgar, but an still show a fairly able in the second act though his sword arm ago numbed by too old wine.



Yvonne Minton and Gundula Janowitz

chair in delight, the hours start passing again. Selfishly, they are aware that the next few years—and Vienna—belong to them. "Sind bald also die jungen Leute". The point is spectacularly made in the second act set. The Marcellin's apartment was heavy and staid in its royal blue. Finally, by contrast, has let the air and the light into his glittering new palace. Beyond the double staircase is a terrace looking over the trees and spires and rooftops of Vienna, the city whose pleasures lie before Sophie and Octavian. It is the view from the belvedere of the Palais Schwarzenberg; perhaps Fina's commercial success has brought him just such a place as it won him a blue sash of honour to put over his belly. An interesting programme essay by Karl Schubmann points out that Hofmannsthal knew all about the Fina's of this world as his own great-grandfather moved into the *nouveau noblesse* on the back of a prosperous silk factory.

makes his search and selects Sophie's white square of lace. Gunter Rennert's delicate responses to Strauss and Hofmannsthal were, alas, not reflected in Christoph von Dohnanyi's conducting, which too often was spiky and angular. He had two difficult acts to follow here in the large Festspielhaus: Kurjan over a decade ago delighted in the orchestral colour of the score while Böhm a few years later revealed in the sumptuousness of the waiters. As individuals the Vienna Philharmonic played superbly, but Dohnanyi appeared unable on this first night to weld them together as a team mainly because he himself was unprepared to surrender to the pure pleasures of the music.

Luckily his singers were much more relaxed. Gundula Janowitz's Marcellin is restrained, dignified in her resignation, but that did not prevent her from pouring out a stream of velvet tone in the first act not least in that parting with Octavian when their hands touch for the last time on the box of the silver rose, which Quinquin is to leave behind. She dominated the trio superbly apart from one ugly note, which came from pushing her voice too hard above the orchestra.

Yvonne Minton always seems to generate more passion in trouser roles than when playing her own sex, and her Octavian is no exception. He is a sexual opportunist, as nature in the hunt as Baron Och's considerably more successful. The hard and slightly chill edge in Miss Minton's voice is ideal for the part, with its suggestion that Octavian's interests do not extend much beyond himself.

Lucia Popp's Sophie is another interpretation familiar from Covent Garden. The tone may now be a shade plump for Hofmannsthal's sweet little mouse straight from the convent, but Sophie grows up fast in the course of a few hours and Miss Popp is adept at showing that Kurt Mol's Och's eschews all bluster, perhaps too much so because the character becomes too bland for the cluster of seedy ruffians who form his retinue, but vocally the interpretation is richly secure. Rennert goes to the opera closes the Marcellin's hand; so the Marcellin makes her exit without even so much as a glance at her lover. Oddly, though, both the Marcellin and Sophie drop handkerchiefs during these final moments, the only point where Rennert diverges from Hofmannsthal's directions. Mahomet comes in,

Parsifal/Tannhäuser Bayreuth Festspielhaus

William Mann

At least Wolfgang Wagner and his Bayreuth colleagues can be proud of two productions in the repertoire of this year's festival. One is his own *Parsifal*, a sober, old-fashioned, magically beautiful interpretation, worthy of his grandfather's last stage work; the other is Günter Friedrich's *Tannhäuser*, which provoked stormy disapproval when it was new but has by now matured into something like a classic of present-day Wagner staging, comparable with Wieland Wagner's *Parsifal* in its best years.

Parsifal remains Bayreuth's special property, the only one of Wagner's works composed with the unique Festspielhaus acoustics in Wagner's ears. He did not want it to be performed outside Bayreuth, being apprehensive that the spiritual subject-matter might be misinterpreted by commercial and stage directors elsewhere, which it was and is though not inevitably. What is inevitable is that the music sounds its true self only in the Festspielhaus.

Wolfgang Wagner's production of *Parsifal* seemed to me somewhat prosaic when first shown here, so antithetical to those of his grandfather, Wieland. This year's revival, prepared with manifest care, looked marvellously beautiful. I do not care for Reinhard Heinrich's costumes; in particular, Kundry's appearance in the garden scene (its lighting surely too sombre) altogether lacks voluptuousness, and it should be possible for her to remove Parsifal's boots before washing and anointing his feet, and then should be not be wearing some sort of robe when he finally enters the anointed ruler of Monsalvat. Wolfgang's settings themselves refresh and enliven the eye: the dense verdure of the forest, the cool nobility of the temple with its semicircles of vaulted pillars, and the perfectly magical transformation scenes. The orchestral sound from Bayreuth's famous hidden pit was grandly impressive to the ears, even if Hans Sotin, who conducted, did not extract full eloquence from the score. Norbert Balazsch's choruses sang with the precision and tonal splendour, here and in *Tannhäuser* (less so in *Holänder* on the first evening) that Bayreuth's audience now expect but should never take for granted; this year, and rightly, their curtain-calls were prompted applause as thunderous as for any favourite soloist.

usually ferocious Amfortas, from Peter Hofmann whose Parsifal was slightly underpowered but most sensitive and intelligent (et Covent Garden his voice sounds more heroic, in Stuttgart admirably so), and indeed from Theo Adam though I prefer a steeper and less baritone Gurnemanz, for all his searching and musicality, characteristic. The new Kundry was Dunja Vejzovic, an exciting talent, though vocally somewhat untamed.

I admired Günter Friedrich's production of *Tannhäuser* from the first. This year it runs even more smoothly, with a theatrically strong cast based on the mature, impassioned presentation of the name-part by Spas Wenckoff. It has also, since then, acquired extra distinction through the fiery, yet clean and stylish conducting of Colin Davis (whose debut at Bayreuth last year I missed). At Covent Garden we have heard Davis grow from a respectful into a distinguished Wagner conductor; at Bayreuth, in *Tannhäuser*, he has become an eloquent one, revealing the corporate artistry of the festival's hand-picked orchestra which, for the first time this year, played with real brilliance and consummate artistry, building on the data of the house's acoustics and the orchestra's characteristic timbre (as Davis has done in the Concertgebouw and Boston's Symphony Hall) and realizing, perhaps at last, what the music of *Tannhäuser* provoked within him when long ago, he conducted it first at Sadler's Wells.

In the overture, nobly projected, exquisitely dovetailed into the Parsifal Venusberg ballet scene, in the swartzhuckling hunting calls which undeniably scare the shepherd-boy away, and the ensemble of first reconciliation; then in Elizabeth's greeting to the Hall of Song which introduced Eva Marton, a lively young American soprano, expressive and incisive but often still lacking the steady voice and the brilliant colour of the guests, superbly in the concerted finale of the second act, and throughout the last act where the Rome Narration even managed to crown the story of the wandering Pilgrims, with Friedrich's awe-inspiring stage-picture—at all these points, and others, Davis proved complete faith in the score, to a degree I had hardly believed possible.

By international standards the solo singing was below par. Even the brilliant color of the guests, superbly in the concerted finale of the second act, and throughout the last act where the Rome Narration even managed to crown the story of the wandering Pilgrims, with Friedrich's awe-inspiring stage-picture—at all these points, and others, Davis proved complete faith in the score, to a degree I had hardly believed possible.



Diana Quick, Charlotte Cornwell and Geoffrey Hutchings

The Women Pirates Aldwych

Irving Wardle

I would find it easier to write about Steve Gooch's play if I had not seen and admired two of his earlier dramatic histories of the British common people. One of those, *Female Transport*, relates to the Aldwych production of the play, dealing with the transportation of women prisoners, just as *The Women Pirates* celebrates their adventures at liberty on the high seas.

As a fringe production at the Half Moon, *Female Transport* was an event fully honouring its author's belief that "we have to make our history as real as that which surrounds us now". By comparison, the Aldwych production comes over as an incoherent feminist extravaganza. Mr Gooch's two eighteenth-century heroines had respectively from Plymouth and Cork. Both were illegitimate, a fact hammered home in one of the evening's loudly didactic choruses, which makes the point that whatever went wrong with their lives it was all society's fault. Mary is passed off as a boy to gain an inheritance; Ann is whisked off to Carolina, where we see her, in the first of several knockout contests, beating the hell out of a neighbouring planter who wants to marry her.

Mary, meanwhile, has enlisted in Marlborough's army and has fallen in love with a Dutchman, and gone back into skirts to marry him. That, too, comes to a sticky end; and the two girls finally meet in New Providence, where after another brawl, they join a pirate ship run by Calico Jack Rackham, the scourge of the Caribbean. When the curtain goes up on the second act, we are at last on

deck and all set for a passionate friendship between the girls. Mary is back in trousers again and can knock spots off any male in sight. More of this and my space will be gone; and if you are confused by it, I must pass the blame to the show. Mr Gooch is a serious student of Brecht and the modern German theatre, and he has written effective loose-limbed chronicle plays on the Brechtian model. But this time, his chosen style has yielded a most disorderly narrative. Too much happens between scenes for them to be linked; locations are poorly established; despite the loose-limbed chronicle plays on the Brechtian model, the point of the action is often vague; and the writing sticks to a grey, characterless vein, untouched by humour and much at the mercy of unintended double meanings. Whether or not the piece would be noticeably improved in a studio performance, Ron Daniels's production does convey an impression of extravagant inflation. It is full of actors using joke voices as a substitute for character.

It goes to town on the fights; and while it stirs the blood to see Charlotte Cornwell and Diana Quick going into action with swords, bare fists and the ship's wheel, you get the point without all the repetitions, especially in the final brawl, where Miss Cornwell demolishes Charles Dance as the biggest and most villainous-looking pirate. Chris Dyer's deck turns into a stadium with spectators becoming stationed in the rigging. The production leaves you feeling that whatever the play may have had to say has been obliterated by the need to snare a large stage. But I suspect that even a small-scale performance would disclose the same confusion between the desire to recreate past events objectively, and the desire to shape them into a historical reflection of the female gay movement.

Reflections of a jurymen on the Taormina Film Festival

na is now one of the contenders for the place of the Venice film festival, one of the three major European film events, in Cannes and Berlin. It is to suffer this year the same dearth of films from the Taormina festival as it has in the past. The old Greek theatre, where the ceremony on the night is the occasion of a spectacular "Film Competition" by RAI, and starting the evening with the enigmatic Linda Lear who is currently thrilling all Italy with her son as to whether this aggressively glamorous is she, or someone else. As the traditional of the show the audience of 20,000 ladies to illuminate the amphitheatre.

remembered neo-realist pictures rather than developing its own interior reality. Coincidentally, Philip Noyce's *Newsfront*, which was awarded both the *opera prima* prize and the prize for best direction, also surveys a panorama of recent history from the particular aspect of a small group of ordinary people. In this case, however, they are people with a particular and privileged view of the history of Australia between 1948 and 1956, since they are the employees of two newsreel companies battling on in rivalry until the growing threat of television forces them into an uneasy combination.

The conception of the film is ingenious; and Noyce's brilliant integration of fiction and actuality (archive newsreel footage) and his appreciation of the interaction of great national and international events and the daily lives of ordinary people reveal him as outstanding even among the current generation of gifted Australian film artists. The dialogue makes a bald, realistic, everyday idiom vividly expressive; and among a whole ensemble of excellent actors Bill Hunter is exceptional, with the kind of performance that is so free of technical devices that "acting" disappears in the reality of the role. So far, said to say, no British distributor appears to have seen commercial prospects in the film.

Two films in competition deal with the oppressions of the past. István Gaál's *Legato* is a Hungarian parallel to Bernardo Bertolucci's *The Spider's Stratagem*. A young man and his wife go to the village where the man's father died, 30 years before, to become a legendary war hero. Putting up at the home of three old women who still retain varied but passionate memories of the father, they find themselves strangely entangled in the equivocations of memory. Gaál is a master of the visual and atmospheric, though the scenario still too much reveals that it was originally intended for the theatre. Joseph Losey, too, has an essay in his own characteristic visual forms, but is finally inadequately served by his scenario. Jorge Semprun seems to have been over this ground too often before. Yves Montand, clearly less than inspired by his material, plays a veteran of the Spanish struggle, insistently revisiting his past, and confronted by his young son (Laurent Malet) who sees the fight (the film is set in the final months of France) in irreconcilably different terms from the old combatant.



Newsfront

ments by France. To illustrate the point, he confronts the military-political establishment with two pacifist biologists (François Perrier and Monica Vitti) who share Jean Rosand's conviction that "if during my lifetime of the country of the world has devoted the money spent on armaments to biological research, man's expectation of life might have been prolonged to 120 years, and youth extended to the age of 90." When the two idealists learn too many official secrets of the armaments trade, reasons of state require their quiet liquidation. It is comic-strip Kafka, maybe; but alive with Cayatte's sincerity. The corruption of arms at a personal level is the theme of Pasquale Squitieri's *L'arma*, in which an ordinary quiet citizen buys a pistol to protect his wife and daughter from the threat of urban violence, but is himself transformed by the very possession of the weapon. The idea is promising, but Squitieri's own script is quite unconvincing in the psychological development. Squitieri only attracted attention in Taormina, in fact, as a centre of the festival's obligatory scandal. A juror, the actress Macha Meril, was alleged to have talked to a newsmen and called Squitieri "a Fascist"—a pleasantry which is still not appreciated in Italy. The beautiful and ebullient Macha said she didn't say it, but would resign from the jury anyway. The president and the jury begged her to stay on, which she did; and quiet was restored. Such is the stuff of which international festivals are made. Sadly and surprisingly one of the best films in competi-

tion attracted little competition and no award: its director Marek Piwowski, has for several years clearly been one of the three or four most talented directors working in Poland; but it is not a talent of the resolutely conservative type which most readily gets promoted abroad. (One of his early shorts had the provocative title *Fire! Fire! Something's Happening at Last!*) The starting point of his *Foul Play* is a classic crime story, given a Polish setting: the activities and eventual criminalization of a little band of young, small-time crooks. Telling his story in almost documentary fashion, and with realistic psychology (the cheerful irresponsibility of the crooks is slowly revealed as a concomitant of senseless brutality) he brings a new and critical eye to the genre. Determined, too, he poses the ethical problems involved when the investigation of crime adopts the methods of the criminals themselves. Fairly clearly it is the consequent close examination of the psychology of the police which has concerned the Polish establishment and in fact delayed the film's release for several years. Hector Babenco's *Lucio Flauto*, a *passageiro da agonia* has apparently had comparable problems with the Brazilian censorship, on account of its too pertinent observations of the close relationship of the notorious Death Squadron and the police establishment. Based, apparently, on the real life of a celebrity bandit of the Forties and Fifties, its narrative lacks concentration; but the playing of the leading role

by the film director Reginaldo Parais deservedly won the male acting award in Taormina. The rest of the films in competition can be quickly passed over: an adaptation of Turgenyev's *Asya* so muted as to be almost unrecognizable; a Soviet veteran Joseph Heifetz in the admired Jon Jost's *Chameleon*; gymnastic sex masquerading as social relevance in the Japanese *Third*; an enduring morality tale about abortion from Yugoslavia, Zoran Calic's *Mad Years*; more abortion from Mexico (*Los Pequenos Privilegios*, directed by Julian Pastor); and Andy Warhol's former collaborator Paul Morrissey a bit out of his depths in Britain with a *Carry On-style Hound of the Baskervilles*.

One film, however, was outstanding among the works presented in the parallel *Serri-mana del film Nuovo. Alyam Alyam* (Oh, Dops) is the first work of Ahmed Makhouni, a 35-year-old Moroccan director. The limited resources on which the film was made result in an impressively austere, rather than in any sense of deprivation. Makhouni allows his non-professional actors to improvise their own dialogue to fit story-line, which deals with the divisions in a family and community when young people seek to emigrate in search of a life beyond the hermetic existence of the village to which their elders contentedly conform. It is such revelations, rather than the big gun pictures, which give a festival like Taormina its distinction.

David Robinson

Helen and Her Friends King's Head

Ned Chaillet

Perhaps Les Oufis Malades is an acquired taste, if I have not said that before, but even on a filthy afternoon there were enough people at the first lunchtime performance of the company's new play to suggest that the taste is spreading. Bryony Lavery's quirky little company is certainly not the ordinary eccentric group of young bums, many as her scripts can sometimes be, nor is it concerned with simple-minded allegiance to a few social principles, although the last play had something to do with manual labour and *Helen and Her Friends* is directly concerned with death.

Miss Lavery's wit usually glances off the side of her targets, skittering to some place unsuspected. The oddity of her understatement, which is her being generally accessible and in the new play there is a typical example of her ability to transform the mood from realistic anxiety to music-hall absurdity. One of Helen's friends, unwillingly obliged by her friendship to visit Helen in hospital after a road accident, steps from the bedside into a spotlight when it becomes clear that Helen is more ill than the hospital realizes. The hospital, the friend, becomes the subject of gruesome jokes: the surgeons, she announces, seem to be taking a lot of work home.

This time it is not the comedy that rings oddly, but the seriousness of death. There are good performances from Su Elliott, Jessica Higgs and Pippa Harkin, shifting from solemnity to laughter, but the wild fantasies, with Miss Elliott suggesting that body parts should be interchangeable and clothes should be permanent, are confined to the beginning, and the conclusion is typically and successfully, but barren from *Crime and Punishment* the literal injunction that death offers another story for another time.

BBC SO/Loughran Albert Hall/Radio 3

Paul Griffiths

Monday's Prom followed the time-honoured sandwich programme, with a modern work set between two familiar classics; in this case Brahms's second piano concerto and Dvorak's eighth symphony surrounded by Liszt's recent orchestral piece *Mi-purti*. I dare say the idea is that the audience should be encouraged before the ordeal of new music and then reassured afterwards, but for me the Lutoslawski was a pleasant relaxation between the other works.

In large part that was due to the peculiar strength of James Loughran's conducting. He appeared not to place any great pressure on the BBC Symphony Orchestra, nor was there

Out Thames

Stanley Reynolds

There seems to be a danger of those more-real-than-real documentary cops and robbers tales becoming all tricks and shadows with no real content or characterization. Several times I felt like writing Trevor Preston's *Out* was a reminder of that old American police detective series of the 1950s in which Sergeant Joe Friday was always saying: "I just want to know the facts, man."

That long-ago series, with its nasty, hard detective work, was dull and routine, was revolutionary in its day. Likewise the basic idea behind *Out* and the recent *Law and Order* series, which is that police and villains are brothers under the skin and hard to tell apart in the dusk with the light behind them, is something still new to television, although not to novelists or indeed crime reporters.

If the police object to the way they are presented on television, which they are doing, it shows they are truly busy men, and have not the time to read books, or, in fact, step back and look at themselves.

The ordinary viewer could very well object to simply being

bored by *Out*. It takes such a long time to get the plot to turn a corner. That is because Jim Goddard, the director, is so keen on trying to make it real, or, as Tony Garnett, father of the video documentary style drama, once said "more real". Real life is boring and slow, and therefore *Out* action is slowed down to make this like *Real* life, which is what Trevor Preston's *Out* is, the ex-convict looking for food who informed on him, was like a man walking in his sleep. He certainly spoke like someone talking in his sleep, all low and mumbling. But despite that effort at realism, the plot fell back on cliché.

It was lifted only by Pam Fairbrother's performance as the mentally disturbed wife, Eve Ross. Miss Fairbrother seemed like a character out of another and vastly superior play.

Of course, if you like crime stories, you will have been hooked even if you know as any 'tec story fan would know and any real policeman would know that a woman informed on Frank Ross. It was therefore either Mrs. Ross, or Frank's mistress, Anne (Lynn Farleigh) who dined it. But we are going to have to sit through some more sleep walking and mumbling before we find out which.

Chopin than with Brahms. There was no massive effort; instead Mr Ohlsson showed that a fortissimo can be rendered as much by treacherous articulation as by weight.

The Lutoslawski interlude worked its charms wonderfully well. Richly patterned and most beautifully scored for different instrumental groupings, the piece is very attractive; and even if a second hearing revealed a little that was unexpected, at least it confirmed one's appreciation of the composer's meticulous craftsmanship. The BBC players responded imaginatively to the chances offered by that subtle little concerto for orchestra, and they were again on excellent form in the Dvorak symphony, a work which, as Mr Loughran made abundantly clear, can be as engaging as the "New World" and as challenging as the D minor.

Bernard Levin

How Mrs Gandhi gagged the press by the flick of a switch

Yesterday I presented and quoted from the report of the Shab Commission of Inquiry into Mrs Gandhi's Emergency, showing how the Commission had established that Mrs Gandhi's ostensible reasons for imposing it were fraudulent and her motive solely the desire to stay in power though judicially disqualified. Today, I want to turn to some of the things that happened once the Emergency was imposed. And first, the censorship. It may be recalled that one of the more monstrous deceptions for which Mrs Gandhi was responsible during the Emergency (on a widely publicized visit to Sri Lanka, for instance) was that there was no pre-censorship of newspapers and magazines. Even at the time, on the sketchy information available to me, I demonstrated the cynical falsity of her claim; but the Shab Commission, which has gone into the question in exhaustive detail, shows that the censorship was far more widespread and intense, and the viciousness with which these who defied it were pursued far greater, than even I had supposed.

Here are the Commission's conclusions, based on the voluminous evidence heard in the course of the inquiry: The media policy of the Government was enunciated by the then Prime Minister, Mrs Gandhi, at a high level meeting which was held under her chairmanship on July 26, 1975. At this meeting it had been decided that a law should be made to prevent seditious, malicious and mischievous writings in newspapers and journals, that news agencies should be restructured, that the Press Council should be allowed to die a natural death, and in review should be made of all facilities which had been given to press correspondents by the Government.

While explaining the reasons for the imposition of Emergency, Mrs Gandhi had said that it was the newspapers which were creating a terrible situation. According to her, the agitation was only in the newspapers and once the newspapers were placed under censorship there was an agitation.

The reasons for the measures taken against the media in general and the press, in particular, was to keep the public in ignorance and to instil fear in them thereby suppressing dissent in every form, individual, political, parliamentary and judicial, and that it was used as an instrument of



news management aimed at thought control. Censorship was used to eliminate dissent and to easily exceed the requirements of the Defence and Internal Security of India Rules. Even editors of national dailies would not speak openly against the steps that the Government had taken against the media.

This pervasive atmosphere of fear in the media forced many periodicals to close down publication as they could not find any printer to print their copies. While the details and methods of the censorship were being worked out, which took a little while, the desired effects were achieved, the Commission found, by the authorities simply cutting off the electricity supply to the newspapers; the orders to take this step were, even under the terms of the Emergency, by then in force, illegal.

Thereafter, as I recounted at the time, censorship proceeded by the imposition of certain "guidelines", which the press had to obey or suffer seizure, banning or a variety of harassments. (The guidelines themselves incidentally, were subject to strict censorship, and could not be published.)

The censorship was extraordinarily wide. I quote again

from the Shab Commission report:

Parliamentary and court proceedings were also subject to censorship. Statements made on behalf of the Government could be published either in full or in a condensed form. Nothing else was allowed to be published except the names and party affiliation of the members speaking on a subject.

Supplementary guidelines for parliamentary coverage for the censor were issued on 22-7-1975. These guidelines inter alia laid down that reference to some of the empty seats in the Opposition benches should not be allowed; names of members who were absent were not allowed. [This, of course, was designed to suppress the news of the arrest and detention of Opposition members.]

It was not only Parliament that was censored:

As regards courts of law, guidelines were issued to the press which said that while publishing news, comments or reports relating to proceedings in a Court of Law only the operative part of the judgment was to be published in appropriate language.

Not merely the publications of course judgments were censored but directions were also given as to how particular judgments should be published. In Mrs Indira Gandhi's appeal to the Supreme Court in her election petition case, a series of directions were issued by the chief censor on what aspects of the case should be given publicity and what aspects of the case should not be played up at all.

The Commission then goes on to give a long list of specific instances of censorship. (One example: "Any statement made by the Chief Minister of Gujarat criticising any action taken by the Centre should be spiked, but if his statement is innocuous it may be allowed.") The Report sums up thus:

In practice censorship was utilized for suppressing news unfavourable to the Government, to place up news favourable to the Government and to suppress news unfavourable to the supporters of the Congress Party.

But censorship was only one of the means used by Mrs Gandhi to extend and consolidate her dictatorial powers. Individual journalists were harassed and by having their accreditation cancelled, foreign correspondents stationed in India were obliged to sign a bond agreeing to abide by the pre-censorship laws, and Indian correspondents of foreign publications were particularly subject to pressure. As for instance:

Sri Ramanujam, who was the representative of the Newswatch magazine of the United States had his telephone cut, his accommodation taken back and his accreditation withdrawn in spite of the fact that Newswatch expressly told the Government of India that Sri Ramanujam was not responsible for any participation in any Newswatch reporting from India since censorship was imposed.

Of course, one of Mrs Gandhi's first moves was to turn All-India Radio into an instrument of propaganda for her and her regime. A single excerpt from the Commission's report makes clear the effect of the action.

The slant against the opposition was so obvious that in December 1976, AIR bulletins spoken by 2,207 lines to the speaker of the Congress Party as against 34 lines in the opposition. In December 1974, the same figures had

been 571 and 522 respectively.

But no means of communication was left untouched:

A number of films were produced by the Films Division to project the image of Mrs Gandhi not only as a "Tough Leader" but as a leader in his own right. The other Government media, ie, Directorate of Field Publicity, Song and Drama Division, were also asked to project the image of Mrs Gandhi and the Congress Party.

A number of multi-media campaigns were launched during the Emergency to coincide with important milestones in Mrs Gandhi's career. The most important were the "Decade of Achievement" and "The Year of Fulfilment". The former was organized when Mrs Gandhi had completed 10 years in power as Prime Minister. Various government media departments were given detailed instructions on how this was to be publicized. Thus, Directorate of Field Publicity was to screen extensively the seven films that it had on the Prime Minister, and also to obtain in numbers the tapes of Mrs Gandhi's broadcast of November 11 1975, for extensive publicity to semi-urban and rural areas. The Films Division also prepared a film, A Day with the Prime Minister. The AIR was directed to select 200 quotations from Mrs Gandhi's speeches and to put out five to 10 of these quotations daily on the air. The Publications Division was directed to boost the sales of Mrs Gandhi's books and to publish informative and interesting sketches with photograph of Mrs Gandhi in various journals and periodicals.

A fraudulent Emergency, improperly imposed for improper motives; rigid and comprehensive censorship to prevent the truth being known; propaganda to ensure that lies were disseminated instead of the truth; the most sinister and disgraceful of all Mrs Gandhi's actions under the Emergency—the arrest and detention (without trial) of her opponents or potential opponents. To that subject I shall turn on Friday.

(to be continued)

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An open letter to the President of Czechoslovakia from Julius Tomin, civil rights campaigner



Dr Julius Tomin, his wife Zdena and their two sons pictured in Prague earlier this year.

The author is one of the lesser known signatories of Charter 77. A Marxist philosopher, he was active in promoting dialogue with Christians before and during the "Czech Spring" of 1968.

His subject is Greek philosophy. During the Stalinist era he served a prison sentence for refusing to do military service. His university post was later

restored and during part of the Dubcek period he was guest lecturer in philosophy at the University of Houston. He turned down offers of permanent work in the West and returned voluntarily to Czechoslovakia after the Soviet invasion. Since his return he has been either unemployed or has worked in an electric power plant and most recently as a night watchman in Prague zoo.

He conducts a regular column in Greek philosophy in his home. His wife, as his index, has also been misled from her post in the West.

Dr Hejduk, of whom writes, is a better known writer of Czech Protestantism writer of repute.

Dear Dr Husak, I am very afraid

Prague, June 19, 1978.

Mr President, I am afraid. Official usage in our country does not speak of the police but of the "security". But the State and its public security system brings me no feeling of security. It evokes in me a lasting and a growing sense of anxiety. That is why I am writing to you.

I fear, every time I open my letter-box, that I shall find a summons to present myself for interrogation by security officers. Every time the door-bell rings I fear that the security men have come. When a car stops at night in front of our house I fear that they have come for me.

I am afraid to visit a friend. Sitting outside his door are the security men, adding my name to their list of callers. I am afraid to lose my job. I work as a night keeper in the zoo. My friend, a psychologist, was kicked out of a similar job.

I am afraid just to be in this country. The men from the Department of Internal Affairs have already tried to get me to leave Czechoslovakia. Now I fear that they will do anything to try to force me out.

But how can they do me further harm? They have deprived me of any job that befits my academic qualifications. They have deprived my wife of her job and my son of a place at high school. Why further methods will they resort to?

I've been summoned to appear for interrogation tomorrow at the national security headquarters in Bartolomejska Street. I fear that they will imprison me, as they imprisoned Jiri Grusa for writing a book.

I cannot stop writing and reflecting in my writing the situation in which I live. When the officials of the Department of Internal Affairs summoned me and then, with a sense of urgency that I recall to my private fear. Shortly after January 6, the day when Dr Hejduk was dragged into the security headquarters, a security guard was placed at the door of Dr Hejduk's flat. Every caller was put on his list, and a lot of other people were then taken to security headquarters.

Two visitors, Ivan Medek and Bohumil Dolera, were dragged into a wood and beaten up. How many friends stopped visiting Dr Hejduk? So, dear

"I've been summoned to appear for interrogation tomorrow at the national security headquarters in Bartolomejska Street. I fear that they will imprison me, as they imprisoned Jiri Grusa for writing a book."

(Following this interrogation the author was allowed to go home.)

from the outside those who are behind bars? For tomorrow I am summoned to security headquarters. How often has that happened during the past year? It is becoming more and more intolerable to me. I am a member of the Department of Internal Affairs should, at their whim, force citizens of our state to be at their disposal. Had I the courage I would remain at home tomorrow and wait for them to carry me away: not one single voluntary step!

But after whom the security people did to Dr Hejduk? I will go to Bartolomejska Street against my will, driven by fear. They dragged him from his place of work, dragged him through the corridor, down the staircase and through a dirty courtyard. They abused him, slapped him, kicked him, left him lying on the ground for hours in a cold room in mid-winter in Bartolomejska Street, with open windows and doors.

Mr President, the fear of which I write is not just my private fear. Shortly after January 6, the day when Dr Hejduk was dragged into the security headquarters, a security guard was placed at the door of Dr Hejduk's flat. Every caller was put on his list, and a lot of other people were then taken to security headquarters.

Two visitors, Ivan Medek and Bohumil Dolera, were dragged into a wood and beaten up. How many friends stopped visiting Dr Hejduk? So, dear

Julius Tomin

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Europe feels the pinch of Salt

Throughout the strategic arms limitation talks (Salt) the Russians have attempted to impose controls on nuclear forces in Europe by including American aircraft based in Europe and the British and French nuclear deterrents. The Americans have resisted these efforts, insisting that the talks must confine themselves to weapons of intercontinental range. This position has now been undermined by the cruise missile, which is palpably designed for long-range strategic use, and so cannot be excluded from the European theatre. A Salt agreement will now unavoidably have a direct impact on force planning in Europe.

Much has been written about this advance descendant of the V-1, believed to be out-standing in its accuracy, versatility, choice of launch platforms, low flying, eluding radar, small radar signature while being relatively inexpensive. Such favourable publicity has stimulated considerable interest in Europe, where many defence specialists cannot help but feel it could be most effectively exploited. Hence the concern over Salt. Not only might the Americans remove an attractive option for themselves in Europe, but they might in the process also deprive the allies from exercising this option.

The Russians have been pressing for a clause in the new Salt treaty to prevent the United States getting round any restrictions on cruise missiles by a promise not to transfer, either complete missiles or relevant technology to Europe. The United States has agreed, not to circumvent this treaty, as she would not circumvent other treaties while making it clear that established relations and patterns of co-operation with her allies will not be disrupted. While cruise missiles will not be supplied, no special procedures will be set up to control the flow of technology across the Atlantic. The Americans believe, rightly, that the Europeans are capable of building their own cruise missiles if they so desire, and that attempts to stop them in doing will only cause bad feeling.

However, even if the Europeans are not bound by Salt, an agreement will set standards for force planning which cannot be easily ignored. They may well feel obliged to accept the Salt guidelines even without being parties to the treaty. The anticipated Salt package cruise-missiles appear twice in an eight year treaty and in a three year protocol, which covers those issues which have proved to be particularly intractable in the negotiations. Under the treaty the Americans will be allowed to deploy up to

120 heavy bombers carrying air-launched cruise missiles (ALCMs) of ranges above 600 kilometres and below 2,500 kilometres without having to give up anything elsewhere. The allies have been more worried about the proposal which will include a prohibition on the deployment of all ground- and sea-launched cruise missiles above the range of 600 kilometres, though development and testing can proceed unimpeded. The Americans argue that this constitutes a minor constraint as it will take a few more years before these cruise missiles are even ready for deployment and then serve as the basis for Salt II. (The longer it takes to sign a treaty the more difficult the problem of the duration of the protocol). The Europeans are not convinced. They suspect, as the Russians hope, that the provisions of the protocol will serve as the basis for Salt II. Because of this concern, a major effort will be made in the United States Senate to limit the Administration's hand in future negotiations over extending the protocol.

A new twist has now been added to this debate. Until recently it had not been generally realized that in addition to the permissive language in the treaty concerning cruise missiles on heavy bombers there is to be a clause restricting the deployment of ALCMs over the

range of 600 kilometres on non-heavy bombers. Furthermore, the definition of heavy bombers is going to be quite restrictive. Unlike the constraints in the protocol this particular one will last until 1986 and so is more severe.

This restriction is particularly troublesome to the British. Official thinking is coming round to the view that a sea-launched cruise missile would offer no great advantages over ballistic missiles when used in the current Polaris nuclear deterrent force is replaced. However there has been considerable interest in an air-launched version for theatre use. It is felt that some response is needed to the large numbers of Soviet medium-range ballistic missiles, such as the SS-20, targeted against Western Europe, especially given the weakness in comparable European capabilities, including the ageing Vulcan bomber force.

What this suggests is that it is going to prove very difficult to maintain a European cruise missile option without going against the spirit of Salt. The Europeans are facing something of a dilemma. There are few objec-

tions to the rest of the Salt package. They recognize that the collapse of Salt could ruin what is left of deterrence and that a new strategic arms race could lead to American defence dollars being diverted away from Nato-oriented projects. They are also aware that sufficient European complaints over cruise missile limitations could prevent the ratification of Salt in the Senate, though with dire consequences for the credibility of the Carter Administration.

The question is how much do the Europeans really want cruise missiles. There have been increasing doubts expressed as to its cost, especially for countries developing it without the benefit of America's technological base or large production runs, and of its vulnerability to Soviet air defence given its slow speed.

For it is clear that the cruise missile can do much that cannot be done as efficiently by other means. The Europeans have only begun to address themselves to these problems and have yet to come up with definitive answers. The pressure of Salt means that they will have to make up their minds before they are ready to do so.

Lawrence Freedman
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LENINGRAD DIARY

The old imperial city that is proud of its past

Leningrad has rightly been called one of the world's most beautiful classical cities. It is also one of the most evocative, every building, street, canal and palace recalls the imperial age. St Petersburg was the capital of an empire, and a twinge of nostalgia for its departed glory seeps through all its turbulent post-revolutionary history. Like Istanbul, it is a city where you are always looking for the past. There is no better place to begin than Nevsky Prospekt, the great central thoroughfare where once a cosmopolitan crowd of merchants compacted to make their shops more splendid than their rivals. And banks with such names as the Russian and English Bank, the Commercial Bank of Siberia, the St Petersburg Commercial Joint Stock Bank, all of which catered to the rapidly expanding bourgeoisie in the heyday before the First World War. You can still identify some of the buildings: the Singer Sew-

ing Machine headquarters is now a bookshop. Around the base of a glass sphere that surmounts a dome you could see a few years ago where the Lord's Singer had left a mark, but this has now been painted over.

An elaborately carved granite building where the celebrated jeweller, Fabergé was based is now divided into two. Part of it is a foreign currency shop. Inside the other half, the offices of Aeroflot, you can still see the galleries and art nouveau lamps.

Nevsky was always and still is the busiest street. The Soviet authorities have taken great care to preserve its classical elegance. The old palaces have been repainted, the facades cleaned and commemorative plaques erected to the Italian and French architects who built so much in such a short time. Cosmopolitan crowds are once more swarming down Nevsky. Many of them are tourists, for Leningrad is enjoying an unprecedented tourist boom. Coachload after coachload of people from all parts of the Soviet Union come in the summer to be guided round the museums and the hallowed sites where Lenin

exorted the revolutionary forces. Indeed, the last tourist season makes the greatest buildings, St Isaac's Cathedral and the Winter Palace, almost impassable.

But for those foreigners who manage to avoid the hour-long queues the visits are well worth putting up with the crowds. St Isaac's—now a museum—has been magnificently cleaned and gleams with gold inside and out. The grim photographs of the war years and the post-revolutionary turbulence remind visitors of the extent of the restoration.

The Hermitage, visited by 21 million people a year, still inspires awe. One old Russian in baggy felt trousers was shepherding his grandson around, probably for the first time. As he entered the first great gold and white room I heard him exclaim: "Oh Russia, Russia, how beautiful!"

So much of Leningrad is unchanged that you can still believe it is still the imperial capital. The small courtyards behind the elegant facades are still dark and dirty, and small, in true Dostoyevsky fashion, of rotting cabbage. I found on my arrival in the

city from Moscow on the 16-coach Red Arrow that there was a style and ceremony that recalls the many arrivals in the Russian classics. Trams still rattle all over the city and drunks stagger around at weekends. The people seem more courteous, more sophisticated than those in Moscow. There is little love lost between the two cities.

Soviet authorities seem increasingly proud of their imperial past. It is encouraging to see the ornate Church of the Resurrection surrounded in scaffolding as the process of restoration begins. Ten years ago it was still boarded up and covered in dirt.

The main mosque however—surely the most northerly of its size in the world—is badly in need of repair and many tiles have fallen from its decorated entrance. They have been replaced with a crude patch of cement.

One by one the palaces along the banks of the Neva have been repainted. Number 4, just down from the Winter Palace, used to be the British Embassy. A fine site for what was then the superpower.

We've got a job for you - posing to a doll queue...



The most spectacular restoration is seen some 20 miles along the coast from Leningrad. Peterhof or Petrodvorets (the summer residence of Peter the Great) was totally destroyed by the Germans during the 900-day siege of Lenin-

grad. It was left a burnt-out shell. For 30 years craftsmen have laboured to rebuild and refurbish each room as it was. Using old photographs, plans and some of the original moulds for the statues, restorers from institutes in Leningrad and Moscow have recast the statues in the park, remodelled the famous fountains, woven and hung new silk wallpaper, repainted Chinese lacquer panels and fixed and gilded mouldings. The ceilings in the palace have been repainted in the classical style. One room remains still curtained off: the painted panels have still to be inserted in golden frames.

The Russians are proud of the result. "It was all done by our own craftsmen," a guide told a group of Soviet tourists (unlike the original, which built by Rastrelli and furnished with the best from Western Europe).

Peter the Great is still revered in Leningrad. His statue stands everywhere. His tomb in the Peter and Paul Fortress is simple, like those destroyed by the Germans during the 900-day siege of Lenin-

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economic inertia and Even the educated gives comparatively response to the actual of life; he is more or victim of fancy and ment which sometimes him to a despondent s sometimes to emoto bursts.

"Here we have th nation of the want of tion, the disorder, waste of time which a Western visitor to Rus pessimistic outlook expression in the won forever on Russian "niches"—it doesn't But some things changed. In 60 years restaurants of the fu are lavishly decorat sumptuously furnish them the foreigner in the cuisine at its best. A characteristic is the e number of waiters (Tatars). They answer call of Tchelovek in Baedeker, "as alw more to tell us than a published since.

Michael F.

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New Printing House Square, London, WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

THE MOSCOW OLYMPICS

people, besides the... who gave their views... feel it would be wrong... the Olympic Games to... if the Soviet regime... to suppress human rights... as it is... Many strongly disagree. The... will continue, and it... that it should be sporting... involving countries such... Africa, Chile and Argentina... strong feelings, the... to hold the Olympic... in Moscow is bound to... still stronger feelings... moral issues may be the... but the political stakes are... higher. Moscow is a super... and the games are the... of athletic activity. Those who want the games re... from Moscow, or made... on changes in Soviet... argue that playing... to the games is an honour... certain virtue as well... raising ability. They fear... Moscow will exploit the... as a badge of international... thereby, gaining... which it does not deserve... ents will feel betrayed... a people in the West will... to thinking of the Soviet... as a nation of happy and... and sportsmen. The West... have given away points for... in the ideological... Besides this there is a... dramatic argument... is that the West needs... with which to influence... behaviour, and the... comes in handy for this... the other side it is argued... the Olympics should not be... held more than they are... dy, or, alternatively, that... in Moscow, they... have a positive political... by helping to relieve the... Union's traditional isola... The surge of visitors, it is

hoped, would help in open new doors, bring joy to ordinary Soviet citizens, and shake up the Soviet authorities. There is also a view that to use the games to exert pressure will be ineffective or counterproductive because the Soviet Union is unable to change to any marked extent. Finally there is the Soviet view, supported by some in the West, that any attempts to induce internal change amount to inadmissible interference.

Some of these arguments can be dealt with fairly easily. It is no longer realistic to pretend that sport and politics are wholly separated, especially where the Olympics are concerned. The ancient Greeks observed a truce while they were being held, and Baron de Coubertin, who was instrumental in reviving the games in modern times, wanted athletes of the world brought together so that "the spirit of international comity may be advanced by the celebration of their chivalrous and peaceful contests". Tarnished though it is, some of this idealism still lingers around the games today. It is perfectly legitimate to ask whether holding the games in Moscow will or will not advance international comity.

It is also legitimate that the world should show special interest in the internal affairs of the Soviet Union. Unlike other major violators of human rights, the Soviet Union is a military super power. The nature of the system which yields this power is a matter not only of moral concern but of vital importance to the peace and security of the world. In addition the Soviet Union brings special scrutiny on itself by claiming to have a system which is destined eventually to prevail throughout the world.

Then there is the Helsinki Final Act, which specifically relates respect for human rights to peaceful international relations—and also, incidentally, to co-operation in sports. It is, therefore, right to look for ways of influencing the Soviet Union's internal behaviour and wrong to be too pessimistic about the chances of doing so. It is pointless to demand the impossible, for the Soviet Union cannot and will not change much, but like any other country it will, within limits, respond where it sees advantage in doing so or disadvantage in not doing so.

As far as the Olympics are concerned, therefore, the most reasonable remaining disagreement is over whether a more beneficial influence is achieved by opening doors or closing them. On the whole the West has been for opening doors because this policy is truest to western values and assumes that western society is better able than Soviet society to cope with open contacts. The Olympics would undoubtedly open a fairly large door into the Soviet Union, even if only for a limited period, and doubtless subject to intensive efforts by the Soviet authorities to limit the effects. Yet western public support for an open door policy will certainly die away more rapidly than it is doing already if the Soviet Union continues to intensify political repression, especially if this repression takes the form of a deliberate challenge to the West by looking internal dissent with western "interference". The Moscow Olympics could then be in danger. For the moment the best thing to do is to let the debate, which is itself a form of pressure, continue. Decisions now would be premature.

conditions arising out of the same protest, and recognized that the filthy and monotonous conditions in which some of the prisoners lay were the direct and deliberate consequence of their chosen form of resistance to normal prison discipline. His use of Amnesty's less than exhaustive investigation of selected allegations of police violence during interrogation as a basis for suggesting that so supposedly voluntary confession admitted in evidence is any longer to be trusted is a very serious misuse of the work of that organization.

The Archbishop's support for the stand being taken by republicans, prisoners, his implied endorsement of the claim to represent the tradition of militant Irish republicanism, his view that blame of the admittedly foul conditions in parts of the Maze prison lies in the inflexibility of the Northern Ireland government in response to a justified demand—all this serves to retard the slow process of rejection by the Irish community of the resurgence of the IRA, its indiscriminate violence, perverted justice and false historical claims. That is much to be regretted, but it should in no way deflect the Northern Ireland Administration from its abandonment of "special category status" for republican and loyalist prisoners convicted of crimes of violence, a status mistakenly introduced by Mr William Whitelaw and abolished for future cases by Mr Merlyn Rees more than two years ago.

Dr O'Faich could hardly have composed a more comprehensive endorsement of the Provisional IRA's position. He sees them as they like to see themselves. He takes them at their own valuation. He gives no sign of understanding the powerful arguments that lead to the refusal to grant "prisoner of war" or "political prisoner" status to those who engage in violent subversion of the civil order without a colourable claim to popular support for their cause. He is oblivious of the fact that successive governments of the Republic of Ireland, which very well understand those arguments, are resolutely opposed to conceding any such claim and have successfully out-faced similar protests by IRA prisoners in their own jails. He shows none of the circumspection of his brother Bishop of Derry, who visited the Maze earlier in the year to inspect

deserve. I would also refer David Wood to Geoffrey Smith's article on the American system, and the large staffs the legislators there need to keep pace with, and keep on top of, the legislative process, which is surely the prime function of Members of Parliament.

I agree that the offices in Norman Shaw North are lavishly appointed. But for every MP in this building there is one in cramped and stuffy offices in the Palace of Westminster itself, or in Dean's Yard, or elsewhere, working with a secretary who may well be accommodated in yet another building.

Our MPs are indeed squallyly underpaid, and this is a situation which should not be tolerated, for, as Mr Wood goes on to say, it is the House that matters, and surely the elected representatives of the people of this country should be sufficiently remunerated to enable them, rather than the bureaucrats of Whitehall, to run the country.

Yours faithfully,
CAROLINE CAWSTON, Chairman,
Secretaries and Assistants' Council,
House of Commons,
July 31.

The victims of Yalta

From Dr Juraj Krnjevic
Sir, Permit me to welcome the proposal by Sir Bernard Braine, MP, and others in your issue of July 26, to erect a "Monument to the victims of Yalta" and to suggest, in addition to their proposal, that the Monument would not be limited to the persons, families and children forcibly repatriated to the Soviet Union but would embrace also the persons, families and children from Yugoslavia who found themselves in Yugoslavia and were tormented by the "Yugoslav" and "Yugoslav" 1944 and 1947.

Yours faithfully,
JURAJ KRNEVIC,
War-time Croat Vice-Premier of Yugoslavia,
8, The Chase, SW1.

Government money for the docks

From Sir Arthur Peterson
Sir, Your leader of August 1 (Back- ing Down on the Docks) is very much to the point. When the Port of Liverpool was in similar difficulties in 1970 the solution adopted was much more drastic, some still think too drastic. Since then the port has had to struggle to survive on an increasingly competitive industry and against changing patterns in trade.

Although 300 acres of docks have been closed and the number of dockworkers employed in the port has dropped from 11,000 to just over 4,000, the port in a healthier state now, mainly as a result of greatly improved industrial relations, better productivity and use of resources, and the development of specialized trades.

But we still have our problems—more remote from Westminster but no less important to those who live and work on Merseyside. Our reserves are much too low, and we cannot finance much needed modernization, and some further restructuring of the port and reduction in staff will be needed. We have been discussing these matters over the past two months with the unions, and have agreed on some changes in the pattern of the port and are currently offering voluntary severance to 315 registered dock workers. There will also need to be some reductions among other employees.

All this costs money, and the fact that Liverpool in the past eight years has had to pay most of the cost of restructuring the port has made it more difficult for us to compete. Now that the Government has accepted the principle that the cost of severance schemes should, in London, be met from public funds, it is to be hoped that they will apply the same principle elsewhere. Liverpool's competitive position will be still further weakened.

Yours sincerely,
ARTHUR PETERSON,
Chairman, Mersey Docks and Harbour Company,
Port of Liverpool Building,
Pier Head,
Liverpool,
August 1.

Channel tunnel

From Mr Angus Dalgleish
Sir, Nicholas Faith in his article (July 26) again advocates the building of that archaic project, the Channel railway tunnel, as if no other way of providing a fixed link were practicable.

Most people crossing the Channel would wish to do so either with the comfort and convenience associated with their own cars, or clearly by road coach. When members of our "winched" choral society from near Cologne come to slog for us they hire coaches because it is much the cheapest way and they have their own transport for sightseeing whilst over here. A rail link makes little sense when people wish to travel in road vehicles.

A road bridge, or bridge-tunnel on the lines of that which has for many years spanned Chesapeake Bay, is now perfectly feasible. Such a link would, as noted by your Transport Correspondent on April 14, have an almost unlimited capacity to move people and goods, compared with the very limited capacity of a rail link.

Yours faithfully,
ANGUS DALGLEISH,
Shobson Hill,
Rushway Road,
Chertsey,
Surrey,
July 26.

From Mr Jeremy Hardie
Sir, Nicholas Faith is quite right to make the case for the Channel Tunnel again (July 26) despite the unhappy and often comic history of this proposal over the last century or so.

One point however remains to be made. When Mr Croxall refused to do a deal with Europe first on for some years running strongly against grandiose public expenditure projects, and particularly against the terrible trip of Concorde, Maplin, and the Tunnel. But it was wrong to jump the Tunnel in with the other two. Maplin and Concorde may or may not have been a good thing, but they certainly involved high risks of commercial failure or unnecessary extravagance. That was not true of the Tunnel.

It was plain in the late 1960s, when I worked as an adviser to the Ministry of Transport on the project, that the Channel Tunnel was a sound financial and economic prospect. Costs and revenues could be calculated with reasonable certainty, and looked good without bringing in wider considerations of political or social benefit. To spend money on the Tunnel would be no more extravagant or risky than to spend money on the CEBG, or the Victoria Line.

Yours faithfully,
JEREMY HARDIE,
Gilbert House,
55 Basinghall Street, EC2,
July 26.

Juvenile delinquents

From Mr J. B. Edwards
Sir, Your leader (July 10) errs when it states "It is a question mainly of resources, not legal powers." It is both, but the emphasis should be upon the latter. Magistrates cannot make a "secure care order". We wish they could, as the 11th report of the Expenditure Committee recommends.

The responsibility would then be upon the Social Services to provide accommodation secure enough to prevent children in care from committing further offences. Existing homes could be adapted without much public expenditure to effect this overdue necessity.

Yours faithfully,
J. B. EDWARDS,
Chairman of Council, The Magistrates' Association,
28 Fitzroy Square, W1.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

British intervention in Rhodesia

From Mr Denis Hills

Sir, Assuming, as we must, that Rhodesia is rapidly accelerating towards the crisis of civil war between her black peoples and of considerable destruction of life and property among the whites, it must surely follow that there is an urgent priority to save lives—all lives: the lives of Africans no less than of Europeans. The Rhodesian security forces must act on their own private protection.

It is not time that Britain asserted her responsibility for Rhodesia and thought in terms, not of trying to balance one set of internal black forces against another, but of intervening directly to restore an authoritarian law and order? An appropriate military force made up of special units might be in training and preparation for this purpose now—perhaps it already is (for it would be foolish to throw the ordinary infantryman straight into bush warfare and police work). A Western presence in Rhodesia would, moreover, preempt (one hopes) the otherwise inevitable arrival of a non-Western one.

A balance-out operation for whites only would not of course be acceptable. But I cannot see anything wrong in moral terms—with a force of international police units aimed at preserving lives—all lives. What one would find wrong is that a nation of 55 million people, rich and uniquely experienced in dealing with colonial affairs, should plead inability in respect of its responsibility for restoring law and order in Rhodesia.

Here in the Vumba, and in many other rural parts of Rhodesia, armed residents and farmers and the black employees are virtually in a state of siege as they try to guard their small, hard-won crops. It is a gallant effort. Critics would call it a misguided and hopeless one. But it is certainly not a situation that a civilized government with responsibility for a country and its people should condone, let alone encourage, to be taken away from through lack of nerve.

Yours faithfully,
DENIS HILLS,
c/o Mr Rupert Buxton,
The Vumba,
Rhodesia,
July 25.

From Colonel Laurens van der Post
Sir, I am one of many who were able to break out of long histories of animosity towards Britain and to commit their lives without reservation to service of this country because we found here honour, private and public decency, justice, freedom of thought and a unique gift of significant political vision with the physical and moral courage to defend and promote it.

But what has become of these qualities? I ask this question entirely on account of Rhodesia. I cannot see in the policy of the British Government any combination of these qualities which once could be taken for granted. Whether the people of Britain were confronted with issues so urgent as Rhodesia. Even more unnerving is the fear that the majority may no longer care and do not recognize the annals of moral and history which afflict their politicians. Yet what afflicts their politicians, I cannot accept this fear as valid. People with a story as great and long as the British do not change character overnight. I still believe they have only to be asked to do what is honourable in Rhodesia. And since what is honourable is also always the wise, they would surprise the world by their response as they did in 1939.

What then is it that should be asked? I confine myself to one overriding necessity: So swiftly is the Aeschylean hour of the

Yours faithfully,
LAURENS VAN DER POST,
Turostones,
Aldersburgh,
Suffolk.

Aircraft development

From Lord Kimberley

Sir, Your leader of today (July 26) about the lack of reference for the military considerations of British Aerospace is incorrect. On July 17 I initiated a debate in the Lords about this very subject, coupled with the civil side. As the Times did not even mention the debate.

The theme was peace and defence. Do deal with Europe first on advantageous but nevertheless fair terms, and then negotiate with the US from a position of even greater strength. By this method we would not become subcontractors to Boeing. The design and capability of British Aerospace would not be lost and in particular further successful European projects, like the Jaguar and the Tornado, would be born.

Democracy in Malta

From Mr Toni Pellegrini

Sir, Your editorial of yesterday (Mr Minoff's design for Malta's new constitution) was a masterpiece of assumptions, which then led to the conclusion that Malta could be heading "for a one party state".

Assumption number 1: "The Maltese Opposition is 'disarmed or muted'."

Please note that since the Labour Government took office in 1971, there have been no political prisoners in Malta. There are certainly none today.

Parliament meets more often than before. The voice of the Opposition is heard on television much more frequently than before. They have held more open air political mass meetings than they did when they were in office. The number and circulation of daily papers openly avowing Opposition to the Government exceed by far what the Socialist Government of Malta have in their support.

Assumption number 2: "Erosion of freedom by restrictive legislation."

For the first time in the history of Malta under the leadership of the Socialist Government the Maltese have chosen for themselves a democratic Constitution which was enthusiastically backed in Parliament by the majority of the Opposition, led by the very same person who eventually became the Leader of the Opposition after free elections held under this new Constitution. This Constitution provides the greatest safeguard for democratic rights. Indeed legislation affecting public meetings, etc., are now more liberal

Labour handling of incomes policy

From Mr Timothy Raison, MP for Aylesbury (Conservative)

Sir, On page one of today's Times (July 27) there is a statement by your Political Editor which it is important to correct. Mr Emery says that on Tuesday the House of Commons approved the Government's White Paper on incomes policy. This, however, is not the case. What the Commons did was to approve a motion defending the Government's policy but that motion did not specifically call for approval of the White Paper.

It is instructive to look back at the way in which the Government has handled this matter over the last three years. In 1975 the House did pass a motion specifically approving the inflation White Paper. In 1976, however, the Government's motion was simply to take note of the White Paper and in 1977 the Government simply had the matter debated on the order of the day, with no motion at all.

For three years running therefore the Government has chosen to avoid submitting its incomes policy White Paper to the House for approval. Everybody knows why this is so: the Government cannot be sure that its left will support it on this matter.

This may seem academic but to fact there is a very important principle at stake. It is bad enough that, in the interests of a so-called "non-statutory" policy, there should not be the proper debate and opportunity for amendment provided by legislation. What is even worse is that provisions which the Government sees as mandatory and which have important consequences should not be put to the House for approval. In a recent White Paper, for example, there is a statement that employers seeking to pay above the approved level must approach the Department of Employment for clearance: yet the Government has no Parliamentary authority for using the word "must". On top of this, of course, the notorious blackist provisions are to be retained—again without Parliamentary approval of the limits on which they rest.

Those who are inclined to scoff at the argument that we have been moving towards a corporate state should consider these facts carefully. Yours faithfully,
TIMOTHY RAISON,
House of Commons,
July 27.

From Professor P. A. Hare, FBA
Sir, One is used to politicians deliberately using deceptive language. But sometimes one wonders whether they are not deceiving themselves by using language which they do not understand.

When the Prime Minister prides himself in Parliament (July 25) that "inflation was increasing at half the rate it was" when his party assumed power, is he aware that he was referring not simply to the rate of inflation but to the rate at which the rate of inflation increased? And would he really claim, if eg, the rate of inflation had four years ago increased from 1 per cent per annum to 2 per cent, ie, by 100 per cent, and now was increasing from 10 per cent to 12 per cent per annum, ie, by "only" 20 per cent, that this was a great achievement? Such a claim would of course be entirely compatible with the rate of inflation having increased all the time!

Yours faithfully,
P. A. HARE,
Urachstrasse 27,
D-7800 Freiburg (Breisgau),
West Germany,
July 27.

From Professor P. A. Samet
Sir, Absence from London has prevented me from commenting earlier on the recent British Medical Association conference discussion on the use of computers to handle medical records and the BMA's opposition to such schemes.

I can understand requirements that sensitive data should be handled with care and that access to such data should be restricted to persons with a need to use this data. I know that computer based systems can provide far better security in this respect than manual systems, by limiting the access to the information itself and also by limiting the extent of the information that is available to an authorized individual inquirer. Such a system is in daily use, for instance, in Exeter, operated by the Community Health Services Computer Project. The users are doctors, in general practice and hospital, nurses, secretaries, with all groups having control over who has access to what. For example, items available to a doctor may only be seen by those he has permitted to do so. This particular project, incidentally, was awarded the 1977 British Computer Society Award for work of most benefit to society.

What I am unable to understand are objections based on the mythical security of hand-written documents in open folders.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL SAMET,
President,
The British Computer Society,
Computer Centre,
University College London,
19 Gordon Street, WC1,
July 25.

Defence workers' strike

From Mr R. A. Somervell

Sir, Listening to the BBC's programme on Nelson last night, I wondered what he would have said if the Victory had been prevented from going to sea due to the action of a handful of civilians bent on their personal gain at the expense of the safety of the country.

Yours sincerely,
R. A. SOMERVELL,
The Old Stables,
Levens Hall,
Kendal,
Cumbria,
July 27.

Measuring inflation

From Professor P. A. Hare, FBA
Sir, One is used to politicians deliberately using deceptive language. But sometimes one wonders whether they are not deceiving themselves by using language which they do not understand.

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THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

Mr Carter's
energy
battle,
page 19

Government puts side another 85m to back ship intervention fund

An 85m will be made available to help Britain's shipbuilders in the event of a downturn in orders under the terms of the Intervention Fund approved by the European Commission in 1976. The fund, which is financed by the gap between United Kingdom prices and those of other countries, will last the end of the year, when shipbuilders are expected to have produced its last year.

85m is at an annual but ministers are confident that the fund will be used in 1978. The fund is used to subsidise the cost of production of ships, which is then passed on to the shipowner. The fund is used to subsidise the cost of production of ships, which is then passed on to the shipowner.

Mr. Kaufman said that the fund had already had a major impact on the industry. It had helped to keep the industry afloat and had allowed it to continue to produce ships. He said that the fund had also helped to create jobs and to maintain the industry's reputation for quality.

Pact nearer on register for building employers

A broad agreement between employers and union representatives has been reached on a scheme to increase stability of employment in the building industry, Mr. Reg. Freeson, Minister for Housing and Construction, said yesterday.

He looked forward to three registers of employers—in the building, civil engineering and specialist sub-contracting sectors—being in operation by this time next summer.

His confidence is based largely on recent discussions with both sides on proposals made by the Construction Industry Manpower Board last January. The board was set up in 1976 to advise the Government on the effect of measures to tackle abuses of the "lump sum" contract and to consider other measures to increase job stability and improve working conditions.

Building industry unions have long advocated the need for statutory registers of employers and employees, with sanctions against companies which refuse to participate. They have also favoured a system of fallback pay. Such a scheme also received support in the Labour Party document *Building Britain's Future*.

By contrast the employers have argued that a statutory register would lead to inflexibility and be harmful to commercial success.

Inevitably, the CMB proposals represented a compromise, but one on which the Government is anxious to see progress made. Earlier this year Mr. Freeson gave a stern warning that unless the employers agreed to the introduction of a voluntary scheme, the Government would intervene.

CBI survey offers hope for upturn despite low output and fall in manufacturing orders

The survey was conducted between July 3 and July 19. Although this was before the government announced the details of its Phase Four pay policy, the general points had been sufficiently foreshadowed to influence the attitudes of respondents to the CBI questionnaire.

Some 68 per cent of participants in the survey report that their optimism about the general business situation has not changed over the past four months, 16 per cent were more optimistic than four months ago and a similar percentage were less optimistic. The balance of zero (the "balance" being the difference between those replying "more" or "up" and those replying "less" or "down") would seem to suggest that if confidence is not improving, at least it is not deteriorating further.

But the survey shows that there has been no pick-up over the past four months in the flow of new orders to manufacturing industry, measured in volume terms (there is a 1 per cent negative balance here—the same as in the four months to April, and slightly worse than in the four months to January).

Turning to the level of capacity working, the survey shows that there has been a small fall—from 66 per cent to 64 per cent—in the proportion of firms working below capacity. This is broadly around the

same proportion that have replied in this fashion during the last two years. The volume of output has risen over the past four months for only a small balance of firms.

By far the main constraint on output remains lack of orders; the survey shows, however, is holding up, following the substantial increase of fixed capital expenditure undertaken by manufacturing industry last year. Such investment seems likely to fall back slightly now, but no faster than might be expected at this stage of the investment cycle.

The survey also shows that respondents are reducing employment, but on a lower scale than in 1975 and most of 1976. There are hopeful signs about the trend in costs and prices, as well as a positive balance among respondents who are confident about export prospects. This is the first positive balance reported on this point for more than a year.

But, in general, it remains clear that manufacturers have not yet begun to feel any benefit from the maintained expansion of the economy. It takes some time for higher consumer spending to work through to the factory and workshop, and partly because some companies still have fairly high stocks.

Tables, page 18

American attack on UK export credit aids

From Frank Vogel
Washington, Aug. 1.

A top United States Treasury official today alleged that certain British Government foreign trade practices were causing major concern to the administration here "because they create a kind of competitive trade atmosphere that brings forth counter actions leading to produce a general export credit war."

Mr. Fred Bergsten, the assistant Secretary at the Treasury for International Affairs, bluntly accused the British before a congressional committee of "boldly violating international trade understandings."

His statements amount to possibly the toughest denunciations of British trading practices to have been issued by a senior United States Government official in recent years.

The administration had made its concern known to the British "at the highest level" as a result of an examination of what he called "aggressive financing of exports," under which the British offered highly concessional terms to induce Pan American Airways to select the Rolls-Royce engine for its purchase of 12 Lockheed L-1011 Starliners.

Informal sources stated that discussions were taking place between United Kingdom and American officials and the latter stated that further British aircraft engine sales to American companies, on a similar basis to the Pan Am deal, would result in a sharp reaction.

Indeed, the sources noted that a further such sale could possibly result in the Congress taking actions to restrict foreign aerospace sales to this country.

Mr. Bergsten told the international trade subcommittee of the House of Representatives that the British credit offer violated international understandings agreed within the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development by failing to require any down payment, exceeding the agreed ten-year maximum term and providing local cost financing.

"The British action, he said, 'constituted a triple derogation from existing understandings.'"

According to informal sources, the British Government has acknowledged that the Pan Am deal involved unusual financing arrangements, but argued that the terms offered by the British were fully competitive with those offered by rival American companies, notably by General Electric.

The British maintain that in deals like this a government-owned company must be fully able to match terms offered by privately-owned foreign rivals.

The Treasury official stressed that in order to avoid the danger of a "general export credit war" resulting from actions such as that taken by the British, the United States Government was determined to seek a strengthening of the "international arrangement on export credits". Formal negotiations would start within the OECD at a meeting of participants to be held in October.

Washington surge oil imports

Mr. US
Correspondent
Washington, Aug. 1

American oil imports are to rise significantly during the remainder of this year, according to a report from the US State Department.

The report, which is based on a survey of oil companies, suggests that oil imports will average 9.4 million barrels a day in the second half of 1978, up from 8.6 million barrels a day in the first six months. A rise in oil imports is expected for 1979.

The report also notes that the US will increase its purchases of agricultural and other goods from oil-producing countries in order to offset the increasing effect of a balance of payments deficit by the rise in oil.

It believes stronger economic growth and a rise in the value of the dollar will combine to ensure an upward export trend in the remainder of this year and 1979.

Commerce Administration officials have pointed out that one of its energy policies is to increase oil imports in the first half of the year, when demand is high, and to reduce imports in the second half, when demand is low.

The report also notes that the US will continue to seek to reduce its dependence on oil from the Middle East by increasing imports from other sources, such as Mexico and Venezuela.

Chrysler and unions pursue peace talks

By R. W. Shakespear
Northern Industrial
Correspondent

Senior executives from Chrysler UK and leaders of the car unions spent another full day in talks at the Department of Industry yesterday—their third within a week—in an effort to resolve the latest labour troubles at Llandovery Castle.

Both sides promised to report any outcome to a three-man ministerial team that set up the negotiations during last week.

Chrysler and the unions were called in for separate talks a week ago with Mr. Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, Mr. Harold Walker, Minister for Employment, and Mr. Bruce Millan, Secretary of State for Scotland.

They are under strong pressure from the Government to find a solution to a dispute which closed the Linwood assembly lines for two weeks before the summer holiday shut-down began.

The strike by 550 paint shop workers made 8,000 other men idle and cost Chrysler output worth £20m at a time when the company's British operations are showing a loss on the first half-year of more than £500,000.

The Linwood plant is due to reopen on Monday after a three-week holiday shutdown.

Butter days at Leyland? page 19

Gold closes at fresh peak of \$202.8 in busy trading as dollar slumps

By Our Economics Staff

The price of gold, which has been rising steadily since the dollar's fall, reached a new peak of \$202.8 an ounce in the London market yesterday, after a day of heavy trading.

In very active trading, gold reached \$203 an ounce at one stage, before slipping back to end the day in London at \$202.875. This represented a gain of \$2.50 on the level it closed on Monday night.

The renewed demand for gold, which has been rising steadily since the dollar's fall, is seen as a sign of a growing confidence in the dollar's future.

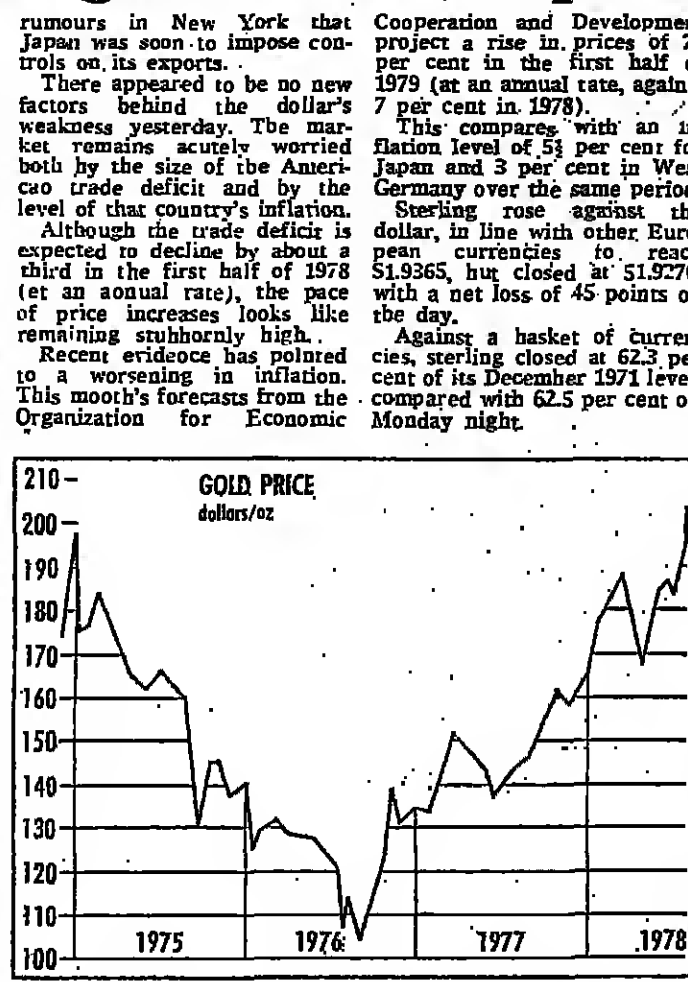
Dealers described the buying as "speculative hedging."

Holders of gold were showing a reluctance to sell, and the sharp jump in its price during the morning reflected this shortage in the market.

A subsequent rally in the dollar caused the gold price to slip back, and led to a prolonged "fixing" session in the afternoon before the price was finally struck at \$202.80.

The "fixing" was described as one of the longest on record. On the currency markets, the dollar fell to 136.30 to the yen, compared with 138.80 the previous day in London. It also declined further against the Swiss franc, closing at 1.7275 francs, compared with 1.7340 francs a day earlier.

In some other main centres, the dollar managed to recover much of the day's loss ground. This recovery was prompted by



Tokyo may act to curb yen speculation

From Peter Hazelhurst
Tokyo, Aug. 1

As the value of the yen hit a new postwar high in Tokyo and Europe today, the Japanese Government hinted that it might tighten foreign exchange control regulations to curb yen speculation.

The yen climbed to 187 against the dollar this morning but closed at 188 in Tokyo—representing a de facto revaluation of 7.5 per cent within 10 days.

On Monday the yen closed at 190.80 to the dollar.

Today's rate of exchange means that the value of the Japanese currency has risen by 7.5 per cent since the beginning of the year, has increased by 56 per cent since the beginning of 1976 and, in comparison with the old fixed rate of 360 to the dollar, has been revalued by 32.5 per cent.

As the dollar's fall continued, the competitive power of Japan's export industries, Mr. Shinro Ahe, the Chief

Cabinet Secretary, hinted that the Government might introduce new measures to discourage speculation on the money market.

These measures, he indicated, would include steps to raise the requirements on reserve deposits from 50 per cent to 100 per cent.

The government also announced today that Japan's foreign exchange reserves soared by \$2,035m (about £1,054m) in July to \$29,366m.

Orme shares suspended for panel ruling on St Piran

By Christopher Wilkins

Orme Developments' share listing on the Stock Exchange was suspended yesterday with the price at 56p. The suspension was made at the company's request and was sparked off by the Takeover Panel's investigation into whether St Piran will have to make a full bid for the Leicester housebuilder in rivalry with the Comben Group.

The panel took the view that as long as there was uncertainty a false market in Orme's shares could develop. It therefore recommended that the company should seek a suspension until the inquiry was complete. Last night a panel spokesman said a ruling should be given in 24 or 48 hours.

The problem has arisen over the purchase of one million shares in Orme by St Piran, which raised its existing 22 per cent stake to more than 27 per cent.

Together with the 5 per cent owned by Mr. Peter Whitfield and Mr. Bob Turner, the former chairman and deputy chairman, this meant that the board's combined shareholding rose above 30 per cent, the level at which a bid is normally required under the Takeover Code.

Financial Editor, page 19

MGM stock sale plan to qualify for Europe listing

Metrol Goldwyn Mayer, the American film group, is making a secondary distribution of 500,000 shares of common stock in Europe to help to qualify for listing on European stock exchanges.

The offering is to support a move into the hotel and casino business in Europe in the future, according to Mr. Kirk Kerkorian, MGM's highest shareholder.

After the sale, due to take place soon by prospectus only, Mr. Kerkorian's share will be reduced by 3 to 48 per cent of the common stock.

Equities advance again

With buyers continuing to outweigh sellers in the equity market, the FT Ordinary Share index climbed nearer to magical 500 level with a 6.1 rise yesterday to 495.3. The increase on the account amounts to almost 16 points and shares are riding on the crest of a six-

In brief

month peak. Sentiment was helped by a fall in United States interest rates and suggestions of a quarter point fall in tomorrow's MLR rate.

Financial Editor, page 19

Bonn grip on mergers

West Germany's Monopolies Commission said the government's proposal for a change in the competition law should help to tighten up on conglomerate and vertical mergers. Under the proposal the entry of large concerns on market dominated by small to medium-sized companies, the combining of companies with market domination, or the size of the company created by a merger, all constitute grounds for the deal to be turned down.

What the markets moved

The Times Index: 215.93 +2.02
The FT Index: 495.5 +6.1

THE POUND

	Bank buy	Bank sell
Australia \$	1.73	1.67
Austria Sch	29.75	27.75
Belgium Fr	65.50	62.00
Canada \$	7.18	6.98
Denmark Kr	11.10	10.60
Finland Mk	8.31	7.96
France Fr	8.22	8.22
Germany DM	4.31	4.29
Greece Dr	71.50	67.50
Hong Kong \$	9.25	8.80
Italy L.	1,675.00	1,590.00
Japan Yen	365.00	360.00
Netherlands Gld	4.43	4.20
Norway Kr	10.67	10.22
Portugal Esc	89.00	84.00
S Africa Rd	1.92	1.79
Spain Ptas	152.25	145.25
Sweden Kr	9.92	9.62
Switzerland Fr	5.52	5.30
US \$	1.98	1.92
Yugoslavia Dnr	36.75	34.75

Rates for small denomination banknotes and coins at principal overseas banks. Bank International Ltd. offers and other foreign currency business.

Gold gained \$2.25 an ounce in 202.875.

SDB-6 was 1.26320 on Tuesday, while SDB-4 was 0.653391.

Commodities: Reuters' index was at 1420.6 (previous 1429.4).

Reports pages 20 and 21

Other pages

as appointments	20	Annual Statements:	20
street	21	Arlington Motors	20
base Rates Table	21	Monaghan L. Meyer	18
		Interim Statement:	18
		London & Manchester	
		Assurance	

Half-Yearly Statement

London and Manchester Assurance Group

The Group's premium income and new business figures for the half-year ended 30 June 1978 were as follows (the corresponding figures for the six months to 30 June 1977 are shown in brackets):

1. PREMIUM INCOME		
London and Manchester Assurance		
Ordinary Branch	£000's	£000's
Premium Income and Annuity	6,515	(5,937)
Investment Trust Retirement Annuities:		
Single Premiums	46	(75)
Industrial Branch		
Premium Income	7,089	(6,440)
General Branch		
Premium Income	1,717	(1,492)
All risks of the General Branch are wholly reinsured.		
Welfare Insurance		
Ordinary Branch		
Premium Income and Annuity	5,420	(4,622)
Considerations		

2. NEW BUSINESS FIGURES		
Ordinary Branch		
Life and Group Life—		
Annual Premiums	2,135	(1,453)
Single Premiums	235	(173)
together providing sums assured of	172,080	(68,116)
Pensions and Annuities—		
Annual Premiums	499	(149)
Single Premiums	237	(138)
together providing sums assured of	46	(75)
Miscellaneous	25	(35)
Premiums		
Industrial Branch		
Annual Premiums	1,789	(1,491)
providing sums assured of	23,668	(19,782)

The new business figures are net of reinsurance.

It is emphasised that the new business figures for the half-year do not necessarily provide a reliable guide to those for the full year.

The Ordinary Branch figures include new business from both London and Manchester Assurance and Welfare Insurance.

London and
Manchester Assurance
Company Limited

Textile companies worry over effect of raised Portuguese quotas on world import ceilings

By Derek Harris
Commercial Editor

Serious concern at the way global ceilings on imports of synthetic cloth into Britain would be breached because of increased EEC quotas for Portuguese textiles was expressed by a United Kingdom textile industry delegation yesterday.

This was one of several anxieties about the operation of the CEE Multi Fibre Agreement, put by the British Textile Confederation (BTC) and the British Clothing Industry's Council for Europe (BCICE), to Mr Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, Mr Alan Williams, Minister of State for Industry, and Mr Michael Meacher, Under Secretary of State for Trade.

The meeting followed last week's EEC Council of Ministers meeting at which Britain agreed to an increase in textile imports from Portugal in exchange for a number of assurances.

The industry regrets the British decision to lift its four-month reserve on the EEC's provisional agreement with Portugal partly because it means increased imports of some sensitive textile products, notably cotton yarn, synthetic fabric and cordage. But the industry's biggest disappointment is that the agreement involves a breach of the global ceilings which are the total limit for imports of synthetic cloth into the United Kingdom from all low-cost sources.

Bankruptcy total at 4,177 last year

By Bryan Appleyard

Personal and business failures, after hovering around 6,800 for two years, fell to 4,177 last year.

But the figures cannot be taken to indicate any underlying trend as they largely represent the effects of the Insolvency Act 1975 which raised the monetary limits on bankruptcy and insolvency proceedings, most importantly increasing the minimum debt figure from £50 to £200.

In spite of the reduced numbers the estimated liabilities of £155m was much the same as in 1976.

The number of bankruptcies fell from 6,700 to 4,095 while the number of Deeds of Arrangement fell from 96 to 82. But the liabilities involved in bankruptcies rose sharply from £78.2m to £105.5m while the amount from £36.2m to £9.3m under Deeds of Arrangement.

This probably indicates both a more hawkish attitude from creditors of larger insolvent concerns and the raising by Act of the average scale of insolvencies.

Of the 3,078 trading bankruptcies the construction industry again provided the largest number of failures at 936 with an average deficiency of £4,720. This was followed by retailers, road haulage, taxis and hire cars; restaurants, cafes, pubs and clubs and financial business and professional services.

said: "The concept of global ceilings goes right to the heart of the new Multi Fibre Agreement and now that the EEC has given way on the very first occasion it has been subject to political pressure there must be grave doubts what will happen on the next occasion, in spite of assurances that have been received."

Mr Dell told the delegations he recognized that confidence was the central problem but he felt that the industry's lack of confidence in the EEC upholding the agreement in the future was unfounded. The Government would press the Commission to maintain the agreement and had kept on its reserve on the Portugal arrangements in order to emphasize that Portugal should not be seen as a precedent.

The industry leaders also expressed serious disquiet about the way in which the arrangements for limiting sudden increases in imports were being applied by the Commission.

The confederation said afterwards that the industry had been assured that the so-called "basket extractor" mechanism, established as part of the EEC's import restrictions, would deal with sudden upsurges automatically and speedily.

So far events had proved otherwise, the confederation claimed. Action had been taken in some cases—namely on wool cloth from Argentina and trousers from the Philippines—and so far no application

made by Britain had been rejected by the Commission. However, long delays before action was taken by the Commission had allowed disruptively high imports to enter Britain.

But the industry welcomed the new assurances. The Commission has promised that imminent threats of increased imports to the United Kingdom from Mediterranean countries will be dealt with at an earlier stage and there is to be an extension of the coverage of the agreements with Mediterranean associate countries.

Import limits on Spain and Greece are now being transformed into binding agreements, a move welcomed by the industry, and negotiations have opened with Malta. Richard Hughes, secretary of the Hong Kong garment manufacturers, barred by restrictive overseas quotas, are investing in joint ventures in Sri Lanka, which, as a "developing country", is now exempted from such quotas.

At least five major Hong Kong manufacturers will begin operations in Sri Lanka in the next six months and the entrepreneurs are known to be negotiating with other Hong Kong interests for similar joint ventures.

Backed by aid from the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, the Sri Lanka Government is promoting Hong Kong investment with tax concessions and operational incentives through the Great Colombo Economic Commission.

Motor trade surplus declines by a third

By Edward Townsend

Britain's motor industry, consistently among the nation's top exporters, is experiencing a decline in its overall trade surplus despite booming exports.

In the first six months of the year, exports exceeded imports by £490m, but this represents a drop of a third from the surplus of £735m recorded in the first half of last year.

Latest figures from the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders show that in the six months, exports rose by 10 per cent to a record £2,085m. But the increase was overshadowed by a 33 per cent rise in imports to a value of £1,595m.

The value of imported cars increased by 44 per cent to £906m which was almost double the value of car exports. The latter rose by only 27 per cent to £491m.

With car sales in the United Kingdom rising by almost 25 per cent so far this year, domestic producers have been unable to meet demand and output has increased by only 5 per cent. Importers have as a result taken nearly 50 per cent of sales. The total trade surplus last year was £1,310m but this year could fall below £1,000m.

Component and accessory manufacturers continue to be the industry's mainstay on the export front with overseas sales exceeding imports by at least 100 per cent.

Car importers, who sell mostly to the private buyer, are expected to win a bumper share of the domestic market this month with the introduction of the "I" registration letter.

Many purchasers will have bought cars last month but delayed registration and it is expected that August sales will total about 250,000 against 200,000 a year ago.

Petrol revenue tax details today

By Nicholas Hirst

Parliament today will be told details of the Government's plans to alter Petroleum Revenue Tax levied on companies operating in the North Sea.

Mr Joel Barnett, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, is expected to make a brief statement to the House and, in answer to a parliamentary question, Mr Anthony Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, will announce the blocks on offer under the sixth round of North Sea licensing.

Six of the blocks will be offered with the state-owned British National Oil Corporation as operator.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A UK strategy for microelectronics

From Mr J. C. Akerman, CBE

Sir, The announcement by Mr Eric Varley that the Government is to invest £70m over the next five years to assist the companies which plan to develop and manufacture microelectronic products is one which I greatly welcome.

The Minister's decision to establish a new division within the Department of Industry to be responsible for electronic applications will also most certainly receive the wholehearted support of the Electronic Components Industry Federation, of which I am chairman.

The problems facing the electronics industry in Britain today are great indeed. The

Government has taken a further step towards recognition of two important needs: financial support, which is welcome, and, hopefully, leadership as well.

It now becomes more than ever important for there to be a recognizable long-term strategy which will ensure a reduction of imports and a real growth of exports.

I am confident that the industry will seize the opportunity created by the Government. Yours faithfully, J. C. AKERMAN, Managing director, Mullard Limited, Mullard House, Torrington Place, London, WC1, July 27.

Policy on product liability

From Mr P. S. Taylor

Sir, It was very heartening to see an MP (Michael August 1) drawing attention to the danger of over-product liability. It is not sufficient to realize that various proposals put forward recently by the P. Commission, so much as to make a manufacturer liable for the sort of defect for which any responsible manufacturer already is responsible. There is a danger that producers become liable to an extent for defects which would have no means of venting, and it is this which causes industry to of the dangers, particularly innovation.

Individual companies have a defined limit to liability if they are to with confidence and ensure appropriately, as CBI considers that come with relevant safety standards and conformity with the of the art at the time of production. A mere logical conclusion is that those goods to be as not defective.

Whatever happens, the city of an individual to compensate people limited, and it seems that Government to define it if Government and decide that all victims commensurate in all case public funds will be called sooner or later. We have Government to define it on this point, which in it is essential to make before further progress made on drawing up new legislation which will be far consumers and producers.

P. S. TAYLOR, Company Affairs Director, Confederation of British Industry, 21 Tothill Street, London SW1H 9LP.

Need for a 20p coin

From Mr A. D. Kitch

Sir, The fact that my pocket has just ripped because of the weight of the 10p pieces that I have given in change is a proof to me at least, that a 20p coin, nearly country with a decimal has the equivalent of a 25p coin.

The huge mintage silver jubilee crown (lion, I understand) is a sight of many of them used as common coins, be proof enough for d to realize that we all such a coin.

ALAN DARRELL KITCH, 162 Taunton Road, Bridgwater, Somerset.

A personal tax problem

From Mr N. J. Flower

Sir, My personal tax affairs are handled by the Belfast Tax Office, although I am employed by a London company. This is to suit the Inland Revenue, not me.

The Inspector of Taxes insists that because he is based in Belfast, I do not have the right (which I would otherwise have,

and would much value) to take an appeal to the General Commissioners. Does it not seem a bit thick that I should be denied this election?

Yours faithfully, NICHOLAS J. FLOWER, Willows, Taplow Common Road, Epsom, Surrey, SL1 8LP.

BL may have to raise incentive offer to £12

By Clifford Webb

Senior managers from all BL Cars in the United Kingdom were called to a meeting yesterday at the group's Midland training centre to hear of a productivity incentive scheme which will be put to the unions on Friday.

Mr Michael Edwards, chairman of BL, said that the rapid introduction of an incentive scheme "is crucial to the survival of the company".

Unofficial reports suggest that he has been forced to raise the upper limit from the £8 per week originally proposed to £12 a week.

Management has stressed from the outset of the negotiations more than nine months ago that it is only interested in a genuine productivity incentive, in which payments are directly linked to additional output.

It has also insisted that it should be standardized for all plants to prevent a return to the old "leap frogging" days of piece work.

Output in many plants has fallen in recent months to the level where there are now serious doubts about BL's chances of meeting the £19,000 cars target set by Mr Edwards for 1978.

Ironically there is growing evidence suggesting that this decline in output is partly due to the protracted negotiations for an incentive scheme.

Payments will be based on output above an agreed norm.



Mr Michael Edwards: scheme is crucial to survival.

Establishing this baseline is seen by both sides as the most crucial factor in the negotiations.

Shop stewards want it related to existing output and the lower this is now the better their chances of obtaining a favourable baseline.

Management is pressing for it to be fixed at a level directly related to man hours worked.

Shop stewards see this as an indirect move to cut the workforce by the 7,000 jobs Mr Edwards said he needs to meet his £12,000 reduction by the end of the year.

Friday's meeting of BL Cars Joint Negotiating Council is unlikely to conclude a deal.

Changes in cash limit procedures

Mr Joel Barnett, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, announced yesterday the Government's decision to implement the proposals to assimilate the Parliamentary Supply Estimates and the cash limits on expenditure covered by the Estimates.

Both the Public Accounts Committee and the Expenditure Committee have endorsed the proposals, after hearings in public of evidence by Treasury officials.

First, under the new system the Estimates, including those not cash limited, will be based on a far more realistic forecast of pay and prices at the time the proposed expenditure is to take place, so they will provide for the full intended cash cost of the services concerned.

Until now this has been the basis of the cash limits. The Estimates, which are subject to approval by Parliament, have been based on prices known when they were prepared, so that numerous Supplementary Estimates have had to be prepared.

Secondly, the structure of the Estimates will be modified so that the relevant cash limits are each continuous with a single Parliamentary vote.

The effect will be that the basis of the cash limits, as covered by the Estimates, Parliament will vote the cash limits which have hitherto been applied only by administrative decision.

Italy approves Bill to rescue big firms

From John Earle

Rome, August 1.—The Italian Cabinet today approved a Bill establishing a procedure to make possible the rescue of big firms in difficulties with debts above 50,000m lire (about £31m).

It envisages management by a specially appointed commissioner, assisted by a committee of creditors, who will draw up a recovery programme in an effort to avoid collapse.

If, however, it proves impossible to implement the programme, normal insolvency proceedings will be instituted.

The Bill is designed to the first instance to salvage Lichimica, a company of the ailing Lichimica chemical group, whose former chairman, Signor Raffaele Ursini, was arrested three weeks ago on charges of fraud and falsifying the balance sheet.

A Government statement said the Bill, proposed by Signor Carlo Donat Cattin, Minister for Industry, was approved in order to facilitate a return to production by firms with overall indebtedness in excess of 50,000m lire, which on the basis of investigation by a judge, appeared to have difficulty in meeting their obligations.

Any insolvency proceedings would be suspended and, if no recovery programme had been already proposed, a commissioner would be appointed, assisted by a committee of creditors, who would see to the recovery of the firm.

If, the statement added, objective conditions made impossible the formulation or implementation of a recovery programme, normal insolvency proceedings would then be instituted.

The government has been seeking a solution to the crisis at Lichimica for weeks. The trouble centres on an important plant at Saline near Reggio Calabria for the manufacture of bioproducts, fatty acids, amino acids and citric acid which has been built over the last five years but has never come into production.

The danger is that Lichimica's difficulties might spread to other ailing chemical companies, such as Societa Italiana Resine and Montedison.

Meanwhile Signor Guido Papalia, the Reggio Calabria deputy public prosecutor, who is investigating the Lichimica case, in an outspoken interview with the weekly magazine L'Espresso said: "The situation is clear. It is a matter of figures and not of talk."

The magistrate stated that judicial inquiries would be opened into the role of the medium-term lending institutes, ICPU and Isveimer, into Banco di Napoli, and into the Casse del Mezzogiorno.

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CBI 69th Industrial Trends Survey, July 1978

1. Are you more, or less, optimistic than you were four months ago about the general business situation in your industry	More	Same	Less	N/A			
	16	68	16				
2. Are you more or less optimistic about your export prospects for the next twelve months than you were four months ago	More	Same	Less	N/A			
	23	57	20	1			
3. Do you expect to maintain more or less capital expenditure in the next twelve months than you anticipated in the past twelve months?	a. buildings	b. plant and machinery					
	18	37	33	11			
	38	36	26	1			
4. Is your present level of output below capacity? If so, are you working below a satisfactory full rate of operation?	Yes	No	N/A				
	84	35	1				
5. Excluding seasonal variations, do you consider that in volume terms:	Below Normal	Normal	Above Normal	N/A			
a. Your present total order book is	12	43	42	3			
b. Your present export order book is	18	36	46	3			
c. Your present stocks of finished goods are	19	39	42	3			
Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the last four months in the volume of orders for the next four months, with regard to:	Up	Same	Down	N/A			
6. Domestic employment	18	48	33	1			
7. Volume of total new orders of which:	20	45	27	2			
a. domestic orders	20	45	27	2			
b. export orders	26	47	26	2			
8. Volume of output	21	51	18	1			
a. domestic deliveries	25	54	20	1			
b. export deliveries	27	50	22	1			
9. Volume of stocks of:	20	59	20	1			
a. raw materials and brought-in supplies	18	61	14	8			
b. work-in-progress	24	45	17	13			
c. finished goods	24	45	17	13			
Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the last four months in the volume of orders for the next four months, with regard to:	Up	Same	Down	N/A			
10. Average price per unit at sale of output	11	36	2	1			
a. domestic orders	44	52	3	1			
b. export orders are booked	38	54	8	1			
11. Approximately how many months' production is accounted for by your present order book of production schedule.	Less	Same	More	N/A			
	13	45	15	5			
12. What factors are likely to limit your output over the next four months. Please tick the most important factor or factors.	Labour	Capital	Plant	Energy	Materials	Transport	Other
	77	25	4	10	2	5	4
13. What factors are likely to limit your ability to obtain orders over the next four months? Please tick the most important factor or factors.	Price	Quality	Delivery	Service	Other	Other	Other
	57	18	7	17	35	13	13

Exports avert 'disaster' for scrap industry

Exports have saved the British scrap industry from a "disaster", according to Mr Jobo Wheatley, president of the British Scrap Federation.

The export total for the first half of this year represented an annual rate of more than 1.5 million tonnes; if this were maintained it would be a record.

Overseas earnings, at £27m so far, also seemed set to break last year's record of £37m unless there was a major upset or renewed restriction on exports.

IBM and Xerox end patent dispute with 5-year pact

New York, August 1.—International Business Machines and Xerox today announced an agreement that provides for an exchange of paid-up worldwide licences under all present patents and those applied for during the next five years.

It covers all products of both companies and ends 12 separate law suits between the two companies in the United States and Canada. IBM will pay Xerox \$25m (£13m), as part of the agreement.

In a joint statement Mr Frank Cary, chairman of IBM, and Mr

C. Peter McCollough, chairman of Xerox, said that complex patent and trade secret issues have existed between Xerox and IBM for over eight years.

They have resulted in significant cost and a substantial drain on management time and the product development and legal resources of both companies.

Putting these issues behind us will enable each company to concentrate on its basic business of dealing with the opportunities in the market place.—Reuters.

Argentina may switch ship order to Germany

By John Huxley

Neither British Shipbuilders nor the Ministry of Defence would confirm yesterday that Vosper Thornycroft, the state company, had lost a £500m order to build six frigates for Argentina.

Both said the picture was unclear, but conceded that a decision by Argentina to place the order with the West German shipbuilders Blohm and Voss, of Hamburg, would not be unexpected.

The deal, which involved Type 21 Amazon class boats, has been under consideration for more than two years. Official sources suggested that the decision to turn to West Germany was prompted largely by Argentine anger over British criticism of the ruling junta's record on human rights and ill-felling over Britain's claim to the Falkland Islands.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for Blohm and Voss in Hamburg denied that an order for six frigates had been placed with the company. He confirmed that it is bidding for a contract to build one 2,000 tonne frigate. It is understood that the remaining frigates could be built in Argentina.

Computer growth slows in west Europe

By Kenneth Owen

Technology Correspondent

A slowing in the rate at which computers are being installed in western Europe is indicated in figures just published by International Data Corporation, publishers of the Europe Report data-processing newsletter.

During 1977, the company says, the installed base of general-purpose computers in western Europe grew less than 5 per cent in number and about 18 per cent in value, reflecting

a more cautious expansion compared with previous years.

The 1977 installed base totalled 52,621 computers valued at \$22,807m (about £12,000m).

As expected, IBM continues to hold the leading share in most areas, with an overall 56 per cent of the installed number and 54.5 per cent by value.

But its ICL has shown its predicted steady growth, with almost as many systems as IBM in the United Kingdom (32 per cent compared with 33 per cent of the installed number).

ICL also continues to build up its base outside Britain, particularly in West Germany, France, the Benelux countries and Switzerland.

West Germany continues to be the biggest national market, both in number and value of systems. The United Kingdom is second and France is third in terms of value.

Manufacturing industry continues to be the biggest and fastest-growing sector in terms of computer use, with the financial industry a strong second.

Confidence in the future

- Progressive expansion will continue
- Profits expected to increase steadily

For the year ended 31st March, 1978 the profit performance in a difficult year was creditable—the Home Improvement Trade continued to expand, exports increased and the balance sheet was strengthened. Currency risks have been minimised for the current year.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS for year ended March 31, 1978

	1978	1977
Turnover	£247m	£222m
Group Profit before Taxation	£12.9m	£14.3m
Retained Profit plus Depreciation	£ 7.0m	£11.8m
Ordinary Shareholders Funds	£63.7m	£59.7m
Earnings per Ordinary Share*	12.7p	21.4p
Dividend per Ordinary Share	4.673p	4.168p

*U based on a tax charge of 82%, earnings per ordinary share would have

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

As the dollar falls stock markets rise

It is still no straightforward explanation of the continued investor confidence in the instruments, to judge by the buoyancy of stock markets, at a time when currency markets are in such disarray. Yesterday the slide of the dollar (or rise of the yen) on which side of the Pacific (stand) went on unchecked, hardly helped by a further rise in Japan's reserves. The apparent admission of the Federal Reserve chairman that there was little to be expected from the dollar, however, seems to lie in the fundamental attractions of many stock markets as economies hover between recession and hope. Certainly this time interest rates are not being called to even out short-term capital movements, but the extent to which stock markets are performing this function is open to question. And while gold reached another high yesterday, trading on the Swiss (London) markets has none of the characteristics about it associated with the currency crisis of the early 1970s. Money is certainly using gold as a cushion on the margin, but there seem to be



William Miller, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, holding out little hope for the dollar's fall.

As many sophisticated investors see opportunities in world stock markets in the fact that the Bremen and Bonn talks are to be something more than a hot air balloon ride, the European currency will emerge to take some of the re-off the dollar as a reserve currency. Street for example is near a high for the second quarter. Profit start to come through on the back economy's first-half spurt and hopes interest rates will start to come down year end. The dollar's malaise may well continue through the summer but the end must come. View that seemed to be supported by the OECD report which argued that competitiveness was now in line with the world there seems little doubt that it is becoming worryingly overvalued in terms.

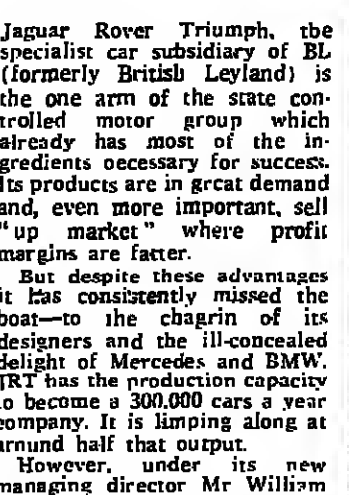
It is to be said that investors could sell y and go away confident that any market even with bullish undertones not produce a decent rally before the end of the year. Like a lot of assumptions, however, that one has turned on its head during the past few months. It is true that equity prices were in May, but the rally which started in June has been virtually since then and on the basis of the 'showing yesterday it is equaling the point in FT All-share index terms for the year. General view that the market would ethargically in the upper 400s (this is FT ordinary share index terms) has been dislodged, but it is about to be a house. Allowing for the political slant of the debate now about Mr Callaghan will defer an election to the spring, some analysts shing out their trading range into the 500s on a short-term view. Even allow-

ing for the fact that investors world-wide are showing renewed interest in equities, the British market remains attractive—with conditions attached of course. It is generally held that interest rates are about to fall, if not this week then soon. Inflation forecasts for Britain, if one believes that the Government will achieve a reasonably low earnings guideline, look slightly more promising for next year—it is possible to argue that while there will be a temporary upturn in the inflation rate at the turn of the year that this will be corrected soon afterwards. But where does that leave the "boom" remembering after all that it is evidence of strong consumer spending that has a lot to do with the present rally in equities? The answer, probably, is petering out early next year along with growth in corporate profits which on most estimates should now expand by around 10 per cent this year. Unless of course there is a revival in world trade. But that, despite the optimistic post-summit mood by the participants, still looks remote for 1979.

Orme Developments

St Piran in the middle

The Takeover Panel will rule within the next day or so whether Saint Piran, by acquiring 1 million additional shares in Orme Developments, has been acting in concert with Messrs Whitfield and Tanner and has therefore triggered the necessity for a full cash bid. It is almost certain that neither Saint Piran nor the former chairman and deputy chairman of Orme want to make a bid. Messrs Whitfield and Tanner had apparently been trying to sell their 27 per cent of Orme for several months before finally disposing of 22 per cent to Saint Piran at 55p a share. Saint Piran, for its part, does not seem to have the financial muscle to make an all-out bid. It has already spent some £2.7m acquiring its present 27 per cent interest which absorbs much of the £3.3m it realized from the recent profitable sale of its stake in A. Monk. The remainder of Orme would cost £7.5m, which compares to net worth in Saint Piran's last balance sheet (before it floated part of South Crofty) of £8.5m and a market capitalization of about £6.5m. On this basis it could hardly borrow the cash and would find it virtually impossible to place enough shares to raise the money. What, then, was Saint Piran doing buying a further 5 per cent of Orme in the market? This purchase, added to its existing 22 per cent and the 5 per cent still held by Messrs Whitfield and Tanner, took the board's combined stake to more than 50 per cent, and has thus opened the way to a possible Panel ruling that it must bid for the rest. The obvious answer is that there would seem to have been some muddle in the Saint Piran camp, and if this is so there may yet be some way Saint Piran can escape from the invidious position of making a bid it cannot afford. There is, indeed, good reason for thinking that Saint Piran's objective all along has been simply to secure a stake of between 20 and 30 per cent in Orme together with the boardroom representation which it now has—the point being that for a limited investment it would be able to consolidate Orme's earnings. This was precisely what Saint Piran tried to achieve earlier this year when it moved into A. Monk, although it was frustrated by Monk's refusal to allow board representation, and must therefore have been greatly relieved when Dave International bid for Monk and it was able to take a profit. Seen in these terms, Saint Piran's extra purchases might be seen as protective for the initial 22 per cent, with the added hope that rival suitor Comben Group might raise its present cash and paper offer, enabling Saint Piran to take another profit on the Monk model. The wider question is whether, in the current climate Saint Piran is wise to embark on an associate accounting exercise of this kind.

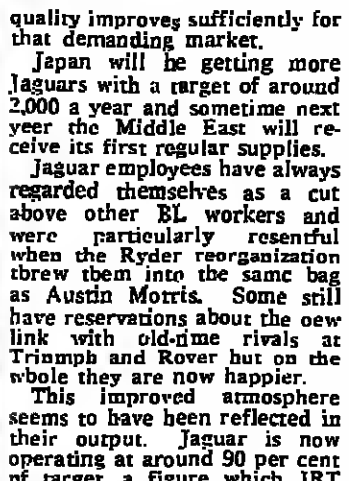


Mr William Pratt Thompson: "There is no fundamental reason why the future should be anything other than bright."

Jaguar Rover Triumph, the specialist car subsidiary of BL (formerly British Leyland) is the one arm of the state-controlled motor group which already has most of the ingredients necessary for success. Its products are in great demand and, even more important, sell "up market" where profit margins are fatter. But despite these advantages it has consistently missed the boat—to the chagrin of its designers and the ill-concealed delight of Mercedes and BMW. JRT has the production capacity to become a 300,000 cars a year company. It is limping along at around half that output. However, under its new managing director Mr William Pratt Thompson, a 45-year-old American, spirits are rising and things are moving. Jaguar is BL's top-line range and for more years than many executives like to admit it has been hampered by one of the most inadequate maintenance facilities in the whole of the European motor industry. The result all too often has been a first-class car with a second-class paint finish. A former Jaguar manager once said: "We should do much better if we sold the cars with an undercoat only and let the buyer make his own arrangements for getting the final finish."

It will surprise many to learn that after the paint plant comes into operation there are no further plans to increase Jaguar production. The present strategy sees around 33,000 cars a year as the best compromise between meeting the market demand and still retaining a high degree of exclusivity. About 40 per cent of output will continue to be sold in the United Kingdom with North America as the second biggest market taking up to 30 per cent. Increasing emphasis will be placed on German sales as

Fresh drive in Leyland's specialist car plants



quality improves sufficiently for that demanding market. Japan will be getting more Jaguars with a target of around 2,000 a year and sometime next year the Middle East will receive its first regular supplies. Jaguar employees have always regarded themselves as a cut above other BL workers and were particularly resentful when the Ryder reorganization threw them into the same bag as Austin Morris. Some still have reservations about the new link with old-time rivals at Triumph and Rover, but on the whole they are now happier. This improved atmosphere seems to have been reflected in their output. Jaguar is now operating at around 90 per cent of target, a figure which JRT executives whisper is awe-inspiring. Not many miles away at Rover in Solihull the picture is much more dismal. In a new assembly plant opened only two years ago at a cost of £100m a touchy labour force is producing the successful Rover 3500, 2600, and 2300 executive saloons at the rate of 70,000 a year, half its installed capacity. And it has only just reached that level in recent months. To date Rover workers have refused to have anything to do with the introduction of a second assembly shift. The only concession they have made to repeated management pleas has been to accept additional working in a number of small hotchek areas. The result is that a car which has created enormous interest and demand at home and overseas is only marginally profitable. The real reason remains untapped until Solihull can be operated at its full potential. But Mr Pratt Thompson and his colleagues cannot wait much longer before they grasp the opportunity of a second shift working. All the indications suggest that negotiations will be resumed with shop stewards in the next few weeks with the firm intention of introducing

a second shift early next year. The Land Rover Range Rover "hang up" is so well known that it can be summed up in very few words. Those four-wheel-drive vehicles have been in short supply since they were launched the Land Rover 30 years ago and the Range Rover eight years ago. On September 12 Mr Pratt Thompson will present first plans to the BL board seeking approval for an estimated £300m expansion of Land Rover-Rover production. The intention is to increase the present output rate of 75,000 units a year by 75 per cent over the next four years. This will be done in two stages. Stage one costing £20m is already well under way.

TR7 saga

That leaves the third element in JRT. The Triumph story has been dominated this year by the closure of the TR7 assembly plant at Speke, Liverpool, and the transfer of this model to Triumph's other assembly plant at Canley, Coventry. It is history now that BL lost hundreds of pounds on every TR7 it sold, that Speke only operated at 50 per cent of its 50,000 cars a year target, and that Mr Edwards risked a confrontation with BL Cars' 120,000 employees when he decided to cut his losses and shut the Merseyside factory. It was warned that the resulting showdown would end with the model being "blacklisted" by his entire labour force and never seen again. But his courageous stand looks like paving off. The TR7 transfer to Canley has so far come without serious hitch despite the fact that it is a complex business controlled by a tight computer network analysis. Some time in October an updated TR7 will be launched

with a big sales campaign and followed soon afterwards by variants, including a traditional "soft top". Production is being geared to 45,000 units a year compared to the 25,000 Speke managed in 1977—and all the Coventry TR7s have a good chance of making respectable profits. Mr Pratt Thompson is not cast in the mould usually associated with American-born motor industry chiefs. He is quietly spoken, chooses his words with extreme care, and is clearly not yet at home in talking to journalists. But on the question of JRT's future he is emphatically gushing. "There is no fundamental reason why it should be anything other than bright. We have outstanding products. With reasonable cooperation from the workforce and an evenhanded approach by management there is no earthly reason why we should not be able to compete with anybody. JRT is not 'Fordian'—I mean on dis-respect to Ford—but we are different and that is what we have to sell and what they would dearly love to have." But the key to success remains the urgent need for improved labour relations. "I am sure that most of our employees understand the economics of production much better than the public gives them credit for. What is more, the people employed to all three companies have a special loyalty to their own company which we must foster. They were never able to associate themselves with the old all-embracing single cars operation." "JRT is making money now despite stoppages like the tax disc strike at Rover. But we have the potential to become really big money-winners if we can stabilize production and get close to our output targets."

Clifford Webb

Frank Vogl

Mr Carter's uphill battle on energy

ship, but that its failure to act with dispatch has done immense damage. The surveys show that few Americans considered energy an important problem before early 1977. Attitudes changed to some extent as a result of natural gas shortages in the bitter winter of last year, and also because of the tough speeches made in the spring by President Carter. About one year ago some 35 per cent of all Americans considered energy to be one of the nation's most crucial problems and many people declared themselves willing to make some sacrifices to ensure a cut in United States energy consumption. The procrastination of the Congress, however, made many Americans have second thoughts. Many people, according to Mr Carter, started to question whether all they had been told about the seriousness of the energy issues could be valid when they saw the Congress rejecting many of the President's proposals, weakening others and failing to move swiftly to enact any sort of energy Bill. Today, according to the latest polls, only about 20 per cent of Americans believe energy is an important national problem. Those in Congress who sought to wrestle the President's Bill by delaying tactics have succeeded. The decline in public concern about the nation's energy problems has made many Congressmen fearful of this election year of supporting measures that would raise consumer energy costs. The relative oil price stability of the last year and increases in United States oil output have made many Congressmen relaxed about the oil import problem. Mr Caddell does not believe

With oil consumption slowly rising and with little prospect of big increases in home oil production it looks likely that the President's planned savings will only hold imports in coming years at present levels

likely, according to conservative expert forecasts, that the savings the President promised will do no more than hold imports to coming years at the sort of levels now being seen of about eight million barrels of oil daily. President Carter proposed as the cornerstone of his programme that an oil equalization tax be imposed to bring domestic prices up to world market levels. This was flatly rejected in the Senate and little progress has been made on a White House compromise calling for free market pricing of new oil and price increases for all other oil. It seems unlikely that an oil price section will be included in any energy Bill passed this year. The remainder of the energy plan falls into four main sections and the Senate wants to treat each of these as a separate Bill, while the House of Representatives wants to act on the energy plan as one large Bill. Thus the house is not going to take any final votes on the energy legislation until the Senate has completed its work. At present the Senate is in the middle of a storm over the most controversial of the four parts, that dealing with natural gas pricing. For 30 years the proponents and opponents of natural gas price controls have been doing battle and the compromise plan before Congress reflects the complexity of this issue. The remaining three sections of the energy plan are less controversial and each may well be approved over the next two months. Congressional leaders reached a compromise on forcing electric power utilities to convert over a number of years from oil and gas to coal and the agreement on this is only a

slightly weaker proposal to that originally advocated by President Carter. Leaders of Congress also agreed on a uniform rate of reforms, which will encourage some higher prices that the Administration hopes will provide an incentive to conservation. The compromise does not go as far as the President's original complex scheme for mandating rate increases. Congressional leaders also agreed on a number of tax credits for home insulation and business energy conservation that for the most part are mainly in line with the original White House plan. Estimates vary widely on the sort of savings that would result from an energy Bill that involved the compromises on natural gas pricing, rate reforms, coal conversion and the insulation and business tax credits for conservation. The most conservative estimate of the savings made by the Department of Energy puts the amounts by 1985 at 500,000 barrels of oil a day equivalent on the natural gas pricing scheme. It is also estimated that some 400,000 barrels of oil a day on the coal conversion scheme will be saved, a like amount for the tax conservation measures, and a further 200,000 barrels on the insulation and business tax reform measures. A somewhat more optimistic estimate would put the total savings at the 2.5 million barrels a day level which President Carter promised at the Bonn summit last month. Given the uncertainty of these estimates and the great difficulty in determining just what Congress will do on natural gas pricing, there can be little doubt that the President was expected to have a great deal of hope at the Bonn meeting.

Business Diary: Surmon on the mount

said Dr Johnson, "a preaching is like a walking on the water. It is not done well, but it is surprised to find it all." The doctor, I wonder—the archetypal underdog Street backs of his view that judgment were informed by Boswell latest stroke by the Guild of Great Britain.



No man but a blockhead ever wrote, except for money: left to right, Writers' Guild's Maureen Duffy, Boswell and Dr Johnson.

build is a TUC affiliate, but in whose ranks are such as the novelist/airman Maureen Duffy, general secretary Elaine have long preached of increasing what they is "appalling" low of professional. A prime target, the rise of Public Lending in library books seems away as ever, but they pulled off one coup. build, they tell me, has ed what is thought to be agreement between e union and a publishing Hamish Hamilton, on m terms in writer-pub-look contracts. Several are near completion. new minima on such as royalties, advances, back deals are better a time actually offered in other houses, says steel. opher Sinclair-Steven- managing director of Hamilton, told me y that his firm had e first to concede the tract because so many Guild worthies were Hamilton authors.

These include Maureen Duffy herself, whose last novel, *Houspess*, came out earlier this year; Bridget Brophy, whose latest is *Palace Without Chairs*; and Elizabeth Jane Howard, who is contracted to HHI for her next novel. Public Lending Right looks like being included in the Queen's Speech next October if Labour is returned. The guild has a motion in support down for next month's TUC. When PLR last got to the Bill stage it was talked out by two Tory MPs, Ian Sprouat and Roger Moore, whom I have no doubt Doctor Johnson—staunch Tory though he was—would not have hesitated to kick down-stairs. John Wheatley, this year's chairman of the British Scrap Federation, isn't quite my idea of a scrap merchant. For one thing he is a collec-

tor of rare books, a pursuit—to be told me yesterday—be took up the bar when his firm used to process scrap paper. He used to see the staff tearing up lovely old books and started to salvage the ones that appealed to him. For another, Wheatley has a rather patrician manner which sits well with the theme of his year of office—the brightening of the scrap merchant's image. He makes the point that the 600 members of the Federation are mostly medium-sized firms, with a few big ones. He thinks that the industry is unfairly linked to the itinerant who furnish his members with about a third of their scrap. He pointed gleefully yesterday to new BSF figures which show that exports, worth £27m in the first half of this year, look like breaking last year's record of £37m. Wheatley is chairman and managing director of the Exeter Scrap merchants E. Pearce and a founder member of the Lundy Island Round Table club. There is no Round Table on Lundy and Wheatley has never even visited the island, but the club, he told me, is an excuse for former pupils of the Devon area Round Table association to have an annual knees-up. The average Spanish businessman is so accustomed to hiding the facts about the state of his business that "up to now he has been basing his decisions more on intuition than on sound analysis". That at any rate is the view of Antonio Garrigues Walker, president of Spain's Association for the Advancement of Management (APD).

In what claims to be the first serious study of the basic structure of businesses in Spain, Garrigues blames the lack of statistical information on "the system of legalized tax fraud" and unnecessary bureaucratic complication. Although the survey, *An Economic and Social Survey of the Spanish Company*, draws no conclusions, it timidly suggests that "Spanish businessmen should be less pessimistic than they are". A characteristic of Spanish business is that "big" is not necessarily "better" or even more profitable—a view that has been aired not only in Spain. Small and medium-sized firms showed a faster growth rate, higher profit rate and more stability than large companies. Spanish businessmen also apparently largely ignore the complicated structure of tax incentives because it is easier simply to cheat on taxes. A Suede called Erik Gönarsson has invented a computerized beer pump which measures to the last drip by photo-electric means and can be connected to an electronic cash-register for automatic billing. The computer is reckoned to cut spillage and waste to a twentieth of former levels, and one Stockholm restaurant, where the barman must have been specially hand-dressed, claims to have saved nearly £6,000 since it installed the first unit a year ago. With Swedish beer prices as they are, that makes at least three pints.

Ross Davies

A bleak summer for Stornoway

After a brief spell when Stornoway seemed to have escaped the point of prospering the town is returning to its traditional bleak state of high unemployment, diminishing job opportunities and a slow drift away of skilled workers. The capital of the Western Isles has received three hammer blows lately—the collapse of two local knitwear companies employing more than 60 and the closure of the Lewis offshore oil fabrication base at Arnish point where 300 jobs went. The 800 at present engaged on "job creation" work in the islands will also be joining the dole queues when the government scheme ends, thus adding to these disasters. The unemployment figure for the town, which has a population of just over 5,000, could then return to more than 20 per cent. This is bitter news for the Western Isles Council, which last year saw the population of its area as a whole actually increase, albeit by eight, for the first time since 1911. Only two months ago unemployment sank to a record low level of 7.2 per cent. What has gone wrong? Officials of the council's development department say that Stornoway has suffered the lingering symptoms of Highland neglect. Industries are in recession, young people have left to find better paid work on the mainland and some workers have been so long unemployed that they have become unemployable. High transport costs and the

task of wrenching a crofting society from the competitive 20th century are added problems. Lewis Offshore was the golden hope, a well-equipped flexible yard with a reliable workforce, deep sheltered water and an oil boom in North Scotland. The yard failed to secure an order and the Government has refused to help to keep it open during the present crucial period, even though ministers have been speaking optimistically about the opportunities about to arrive. The council put two sets of proposals to the Government—either to underwrite the completion of the barge now lying at Arnish or to meet part of the wage bill until the present feeling of optimism among ministers either passes or yields an order. The yard is now on a care and maintenance basis and the feeling is that the chance of securing orders when the workforce has gone and the place is empty has been badly damaged. The company would have been happy to receive the equivalent of what is now the Government's loss through social security payments, and loss of consumer and income taxes. Who gives work to an empty yard? is a council official asked. The latest threat to jobs in the islands is from the collapse

of Isle of Lewis Knitwear Limited, of Stornoway. A receiver has been called in and has yet to decide whether the company will continue to trade. Heather Valley (Woolless) Limited, a knitwear factory at Ness, closed last April. The council is likely to seek some extension of the job creation programme for the crofted and communal lands of whom are not so much unemployed as under-employed. Peat cutting, vegetable growing and general craft activity kept a man busy perhaps two days a week. Ideally a topping up of three more days' work on communal schemes would fill his working week. The present system under which craft earnings are deducted from social security payments is a disincentive to do anything. One bright spot on the Hebridean horizon is the strong improvement of Harris Tweed weaving, for which fashion has suddenly created a heavy demand. A local technical college has added weaving to its list of crash courses, which cover such useful Western Isles skills as knitwear, seamanship and engineering. Other positive efforts include the extension of island co-operatives to encourage community schemes and to reduce mainland imports. Tourism and craft production are also strongly encouraged and a seminar has been proposed to discuss profitable ways of exploiting the most plentiful Hebridean resource—peat.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Index pressing towards 500 level

Any vestige of bearish sentiment still struggling to survive in a buoyant market was finally dispelled yesterday when the FT Ordinary share index rose 6.1 to 495.5.

In the current account, the index has climbed almost 16 points to a six month high. There are few market men still doubting that it will break through the magical 500 level.

The only apparent uncertainty now is when it will reach this barrier. However, more important from the chartists point of view, is the 497 level and the index is now within an ace of breaking through into a higher band.

Forecasting a down turn in pre-tax profits this year at English, Chinese, and American companies, the current share price of 78p around 4.2p high. The brokers will be looking for 223m. against a previous 224.5m and, with heavy price increases and reduced demand expected, see the shares as a "sell".

Settlement was helped yesterday by the fall in United States interest rates and suggestions of a quarter point fall in MLR tomorrow.

Buying was generally light, with some 4,374 bargains marked, and directed more into special situation stocks than blue chips. The FT Allshare index, adding 2.38 to 266.55, is now within half a point of its all-time peak.

To British Funds, shorts closed much as they opened through the longer end of this range did firm a shade.

In long, helped by American interest rates and the firmer pound, gilts edged an eighth to a quarter higher in reasonable trade.

Applications today for the new 12 per cent Exchequer 1999-2002 partly-paid tax stock are not expected to be heavy as it is still pitched slightly ahead of the market.

The Bank of England announced an issue of around £6.06m 9½ per cent Treasury stock 1981 as further compensation to the nationalized aircraft and shipbuilding industries. The issue will be made at a rate of £100 Treasury stock per £73 compensation on account Deal.

in the stock will start today.

In the leader stocks John Brown led the way up with a 10p spurt to 428p while elsewhere gains of a few pence left ICI at 393p, Glaxo at 592p, Unilever at 532p and GKN at 285p.

In electricals GEC added 3p to 278p, Tubes added 6p to 390p and Farnell, where there was some speculative buying in a thin market, climbed 7p to 348p. Sharply higher profits from Unitech added 5p to the shares at 151p.

Profits being taken on Pilkington's trimmed 5p from the price at 595p while UKO International marked time at 158p.

Daily Mail 'A' climbed 17p to 360p on speculation of re-organization plans following the death of Lord Rothermere but Associated Newspapers added only 3p to 185p.

In front of first quarter figures tomorrow Reed International rose 4p to 147p while Bowater added 2p to 192p. Still helped by its recent chairman's statement De La Rue went 12p better to 412p.

With the price of bullion continuing to climb again, gold shares found some buying, particularly from the merchant banks and commodity trusts. Quality stocks with 8-9 per cent prospective yield were particularly attractive and Western Deep and President Steyn both closed almost 50p higher at 191/32, while the Reef closed almost 5p to 111/32.

The flight from cash into assets also helped De Beers 5p higher at 398p and mining finance houses RTZ 4p better at 232p and Selection Trust which climbed 13p to 445p.

Platinums, where the metal price hit a high of \$267, up \$3.75 on the day, Bishopsgate at 96p and Rustenberg at 94p firmed 3p.

Metal refiner Johnson Matthey rose 5p to 458p. Dense Developments was suspended at 56p pending a probe into the share acquisitions of St Piran, a penny easier at 56p, while Brown & Jackson climbed 21p to 180p helped by speculation of interest following a recent major acquisition.

Trading news was good enough to add 12p to W. N. Sharpe at 203p and 5p to Sterling Credit at 32p while Westinghouse Brake held steady at 56p.

In firm rubbers, Highlands & Lowlands climbed 61p to 129p while on active Hongkong market took Sardinia Matheson up 14p to 273p and Hongkong & Shanghai Banking 5p better to 332p.

A forecast of higher profits in the annual report added 4p to H. Wigfall at 237p while the report and accounts left SUITS unmoved at 115p.

Speculative interest added 12p to London Provincial Fester at 183p but profit taking, after its recent sharp rise, trimmed a similar amount from Vinten at 158p.

Barker & Dobson added 3p to 134p on suggestions that its Oakeshort subsidiary might be for sale. The International went 10p better to 272p. Arlington Motors, after initially losing ground on final figures, ended unchanged at 135p.

In drinks, bullish comment in a trade paper combined with a

shortage of stock to add 11p to Greene King at 293p while elsewhere strong buying helped Bass, 3p better at 168p, Allied 21p higher at 90p and Distillers 2p firmer at 198p.

Properties continued to forge ahead with Chesterfield at 328p and Stock Conversion at 270p adding 6p and 5p respectively. A climbing 10p to 585p.

Vantona has been a strong market of tomorrow's interim statement — despite expectations that the figures will be poor — and at 131p are around their year's "high". Some believe that an income-boosting preference scrip issue will be made, but while the board would like to reduce its five times over there are doubts about whether it would choose this route. If not, the prospect of little more than maintained full-year profits of £4.7m could leave the shares looking vulnerable.

Insurances were firm, in front of the interim reporting season which starts in the next account. General Accident firmed 8p to 228p while Royal 12p to 387p.

Banks were also improved with Midland adding 5p to 353p and Barclays at 342p, Lloyds at 260p and National Westminster at 270p firmed 2p.

Equity turnover on July 31 was £65.198 (£17.782 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to Exchange Telegraph, were ICI, Selection Trust, Boots, RTZ Reg, Barclays, Boco, GKN, Imps, Midland and Distillers.

Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
lot or Fin	£m	£m	per share	pence	date	total
Assoc. Brit. Eng. (F)	2.5(3.2)	0.04(0.008)	0.2(0.2)	—	—	—
Arlington Motor (F)	43.4(31.2)	1.2(0.65)	24.3(12.6)	—	—	7.8(6.5)
City Office (F)	0.86(0.64)	0.53(0.32)	0.36(0.27)	—	—	3.6(3.2)
I & J Dyson (F)	33.9(29.9)	2.9(2.3)	11.7(8.6)	1.67(—)	—	1.1(1.1)
Ex-Landis (F)	—	0.29(0.22)	3.7(2.5)	1.11(1.11)	2/10	1.1(1.1)
Hales Propriety (F)	0.94(0.59)	0.27(0.18)	7.1(4.6)	1.69(1.48)	15/9	2.4(2.2)
Hidrop Estate (F)	0.92(0.58)	0.04(0.15)	—	—	—	—
W. N. Sharpe (F)	5.1(4.1)	0.13(0.10)	—	—	—	—
Smallshaw Knit (F)	2.1(1.8)	0.32(0.28)	4.4(3.7)	0.9(0.8)	15/9	0.9(0.8)
Sterling Credit (F)	2.4(2.9)	1.1(1.0)	—	—	—	—
Temple Bar Invest (F)	1.2(1.1)	2.5(2.5)	—	—	—	—
W. House Brake (F)	30.5(29.5)	—	—	—	—	—

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.49. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. A loss is shown as a minus.

Credit Suisse's assets reach almost £14,000m

Zurich.—Credit Suisse reports that its total assets rose by 1,900m Swiss francs to 46,300m francs (about £13,820m) during the second quarter this year, making a half-year increase of 2,300m francs. The bank said growth of client-deposits, up 1,600m francs during the first quarter, levelled off in the second quarter at 933m francs, making a total of 27,900m francs.—AP-Dow Jones.

General Motors' foreign peak

Detroit.—General Motors reports that in the first half of this year retail sales of its cars and commercial vehicles outside the United States and Canada rose by 10.2 per cent to a record 962,268 from 872,935 a year earlier. The total was 6.5 per cent ahead of the previous record of 903,224 for the first six months of 1976.—Reuters.

Bruxelles Lambert

Paris.—The French authorities have not yet approved a proposal for Banque Bruxelles Lambert of Belgium to take a majority stake in Banque Louis Dreyfus sources close to Louis Dreyfus et Cie said. Banking sources believe the French Government is delaying approval in the hope of finding a French concern willing to take the stake. On June 12, Dreyfus et Cie said Bruxelles Lambert would initially take a 40 per cent stake in the French bank and then subscribe to a capital increase to give it an overall stake of just over 50 per cent, with Dreyfus et Cie holding the rest.—Reuters.

General Signal

Stamford, Conn.—General Signal Corp has signed a definitive agreement to acquire all Leeds and Northrup shares it does not currently own in ex-

Assoc Eng to drop in last half

Accompanying offer documents for its agreed 85p-a-share bid for Fluidrive Engineering is a forecast that Associated Engineering's pre-tax profits for the year to September 30 will be in the range of £28m to £30m. This is after charging £12m of redundancy and early retirement costs, and is down on last year's record £32.5m.

The board said that it is "a little less optimistic about profits for the second half of the current year than it was at half time, when pre-tax profits dipped from £16.2m to £15m and when they hoped for an improvement in the second half. At best, the forecast points to a slight dip in the second half from £12m to £15m and, at worst, to £13m.

Given that dividend controls are extended, the dividend will be just 10 per cent higher at 7.82p gross.

Advest takes control of French company

For £298,000, Advest Group has acquired 80 per cent of Azens Etablissements, a privately-owned French company, which makes mechanical flexible linear controls. The deal values the whole of the French company at £373,000.

Boden has long-standing links with Advest's subsidiary, Boden Controls of Lincoln, which has similar business. Advest plans to develop and expand the French company as an independent unit under its existing management, while advantages will be taken of the opportunities for technical collaboration.

Last year, the French company made a pre-tax profit of £103,000 on turnover of £1.12m. Its net assets at the year-end were £235,000.

Pinchin Denny to trade in gilts

Pinchin Denny yesterday confirmed it is to start trading in

W Sharpe interim pleases market

By Tony May

A strong half-time performance has been put up by W. N. Sharpe, the greetings card group which earlier this year effectively sold itself back to shareholders as protection after numerous takeover approaches. At the same time, a total of nearly £5m was returned to shareholders.

The group has achieved a 32 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £1.38m for the six months to June 30 on turnover, 24 per cent ahead at £5.1m. This is much better than the usual half-year performance by a group whose business is largely seasonal and the shares jumped 12p to 203p on the news.

The board comments that this change in the group's trading pattern reflects accelerated dispatches to customers. This has brought a much better percentage of the year's expected growth in turnover and trading profit into the first half year. The trading outlook continues to be satisfactory. The whole of last year produced a record £2.86m—a rise of 26.5 per cent on turnover 30.6 per cent up at £8.8m.

The board says that under the scheme of reconstruction, which will become effective on Friday, the company has disposed of some of its investments realised a surplus of £1.36m but this has not been included in the results. As was forecast, the dividend is 2.69p gross.

Offer raised for W G Frith

Following further discussions with the Cornhill Holdings, which own a 2 per cent stake in W. G. Frith, Frith Coils has increased its offer for W. G. Frith, other than that already owned, from 70p to 86p.

The increased offer will be recommended by Mr. Spencer H. May, independent chairman of W. G. Frith. However, Mr. May and his advisers have again confirmed that they consider that the original offer of 70p was fair and reasonable and the increased offer was "generous".

trade in Australia and the Far East, where profits were down in the second half of 1977-78, are already showing improvement in the first part of the current year. "I hope in this statement I have demonstrated my confidence in the future of the company and that I expect the profit increases to be steady rather than dramatic", concludes Mr. Meyer.

Yearling bond rate pegged at 9½ pc

The coupon on local authority bonds is unchanged this week at 9½ per cent at 100. The biggest bond, for £2m, is from Edinburgh while Coventry, Liverpool and Portsmouth have each raised £1m.

Variable rate bonds are preferred by Essex, which is raising £1m, Restormel with £250,000 and South Lakeland with £750,000.

J & FB places 1.8m shares in Aurora

Johnson & Firth Brown is making, through a subsidiary, a placing with 12 institutions of its 1.8 million shares in Aurora Holdings. This represents about 9.7 per cent of ordinary equity of Aurora which has been placed in the market at 95p a share. The placing has been undertaken by Aurora's broker, Panmure Gordon.

Montague Meyer

In his annual statement, Mr. John Meyer, chairman of Montague Meyer, says: "The demand for our products is going to be a little better this year than last, and generally this applies to the whole of Europe." Mr. Meyer adds that

Westinghouse Brake hit by £500,000 foundry plant losses

By Bryao Appleyard

An unexpected £500,000 loss because of problems with new foundry plant left Westinghouse Brake and Signal with a dip in interim profits from £2.57m to £2.5m.

Foundry plant installed as part of a firm programme of modernization simply failed to work, affecting both in-house supplies to the brake division and outside sales. These problems now seem to have been solved and Mr. Leslie Thompson, the chairman, is expecting second-half figures to show an improvement over the first half.

But he reserves most of his optimism for next year on the basis of the order book, which currently stands at £75m against between £40m and £50m at the same time last year.

The buoyancy is being experienced mainly in signs, automation and control, and mainly overseas. In Australia, some of the optimism arising from this



Mr. Leslie Thompson, chairman of Westinghouse Brake.

is offset by the current strength of the pound against the Australian dollar.

Supply still a problem at Arlington Motor Hldgs

By Our Financial Staff

Arlington Motor Holdings increased its profits from £551,000 to £1.2m on turnover up from £31.2m to £43.4m in the year ending March 31.

Except for the small Aluminium and General Material Stocks, the improvement arose across the board. But the important feature was the buoyancy of demand for commercial vehicles. The one problem in this field was that Arlington could not obtain all the vehicles it needed from British Leyland—for example it estimates that it could sell 50 per cent more construction vehicles if supply succeeded in matching demand.

Commercial vehicle sales accounted for 58 per cent of the total last year, against 57 per cent the year before, buses and coaches for 25 per cent, against 24 per cent, and cars for 17 per cent, against 19 per cent.

This year lorries have so far proved a flat market, while vans and cars are both booming, with the latter doubling their sales.

Unitech climbs by 48pc to best-ever £3.1m pre-tax

By Michael Clark

A further substantial increase in growth is reported by Unitech, the Reading-based manufacturer of electronic components.

Figures for the year to June 3, show pre-tax profits up by 48 per cent to a record £3.1m. This has been achieved on sales up from £26.6m to £33.6m.

Commenting on future prospects Mr. Peter Curry, chairman, said that while it was too early to make any positive indications he did not expect the group's rate of growth to exceed last year's.

Indeed, he was taking a cautious outlook on 1978 as a slow down in the growth of the United States electronics market from its current rate of 14 per cent to less than 5 per cent was feared. With the United States market accounting for 50 per cent of the world electronics market, the rest of Europe is bound to suffer at some point, Mr. Curry commented.

Shareholders this time will receive a final dividend of 3.85p, making a total for the year of



Mr. Peter Curry, chairman of Unitech.

6.05p gross, an increase of 10 per cent.

News of the surge in profits pushed the shares up 5p to 15p yesterday giving a p/e ratio of 13.6 and a yield of 4 per cent.

YJ Lovell may buy ICI firm

By Peter Wainwright

Word of a deal which, if it goes through, will greatly increase the scope of builder, developer and timber group Y. J. Lovell (Holdings) left its shares unmoved at 87p yesterday.

It is negotiating to buy Farrow Group, a concern in a similar line of business, and presently part of Imperial Chemical Industries.

It is understood that Lovell would usefully extend its national coverage. Lovell is strong in Southern England while Farrow is well represented in the North.

For its part, ICI seems to

have decided that Farrow was hardly relevant to its mainstream chemical activities. Trading links with Lovell and others will continue anyway.

Turnover of the combined group would approach £90m a year with the addition of Farrow to Lovell which in the year to September 30 1977 had a turnover on its own of £47.3m. In the six months to last March turnover rose from £25.6m to £30.3m, but pre-tax profits of £288,000 in the year to September 1977.

In that year Lovell made £1.52m. In the first half of this year it raised pre-tax profits by £6,000 to £717,000.

Business appointments

Sir Eric Faulkner to advise Unilever

Sir Eric Faulkner is to become an advisory director of Unilever.

Mr. C. A. H. Monk has joined the board of Hill Samuel.

Mr. Rex Nelson has become a director of Exchange Telegraph (Holdings).

Mr. P. D. H. Gadsden has joined the board of LRC International as a non-executive director.

Sir Michael Parsons, managing director of Inchcape, has been made a non-executive director of Fairbank Lawson.

Mr. Ian Roberts, has become a director of Hampton Gold Mining.

Mr. Kenneth Cook has joined the board of Pye Holdings.

As a result of the merger between Greenall Whitley and James Shipstone and Son, Mr. Christopher Hailton and Mr. David Pritchard-Barrett have joined the board of Shipstone as chairman and deputy chairman respectively.

Mr. Robert Combe, continues as chief executive of Shingstone and has been made a director of Greenall Whitley.

Sir Alec Alexander, chairman of Imperial Foods and director of Imperial Group, has joined the board of Marchwiel as a non-executive director.

Mr. Ray McNeice has been appointed managing director of Airfix Craymore.

more, R. D. N. Allison and Mr. W. J. Wretford have been made associate directors of Coral Leisure Group.

Mr. T. Broadhurst and Mr. R. C. Weston have joined the board of Westinghouse Juggins Money & Stewart.

Mr. Hugh R. Snyder has been elected president and chief executive officer of Brinco, effective from October 1. He also becomes a director of Mr. Graeme A. Elliott, recently elected president and chief executive officer to serve on an interim basis, will continue in office until October 1.

Mr. Charles Goddard has joined the board of Winchester Bowring.

Mr. K. B. Cox, general manager, treasurer, Midland Bank, has been appointed a director of Midland Bank Industrial Equity Holdings, Midland Montagu Industrial Finance and Midland Industrial Investments.

Mr. J. R. Henderson has been appointed chairman of Barclays Bank Trust Company to succeed to Mr. D. E. White.

Mr. A. W. Gadd has become chairman of the board of Breweries (Wrexham) and will hold the office in addition to his existing office of managing director.

Mr. F. Hurlly is relinquishing the office of chairman, but will remain his directorship of the company.

Mr. E. L. Bell has been elected a director of the board of Grindley & Co.

Mr. Jeremy Yates, director of the Weekly Advertising Bureau, is group marketing director of Universal News.

Mr. Roger Arundale made a director of the Building Society.

Mr. A. J. Brett has been elected a director of Brown Tubor.

Mr. B. E. Sargeant as managing director of Maersk Company and elected by Mr. Karsten.

Mr. Cedric Nimmo the board of First City has been elected a director of Randalls & Co.

Mr. V. E. G. Mann, then by a recovery of the board of Marlot 1 Liner Agency, Mr. J. J. Field is resigning from the board.

Mr. M. T. Field is resigning from the board of Marlot 1 Liner Agency, Mr. J. J. Field is resigning from the board.

Mr. Frank Lampl, chief executive of Bo.

"We feel it a great achievement to have increased our Net Profit before Tax by 86%."

Extract from Mr. N. C. N. Housden's statement to shareholders.

In the year 1977/78 Trading Profits have increased by 45%. Net Profit before Tax by 86% and Earnings per Share have almost doubled.

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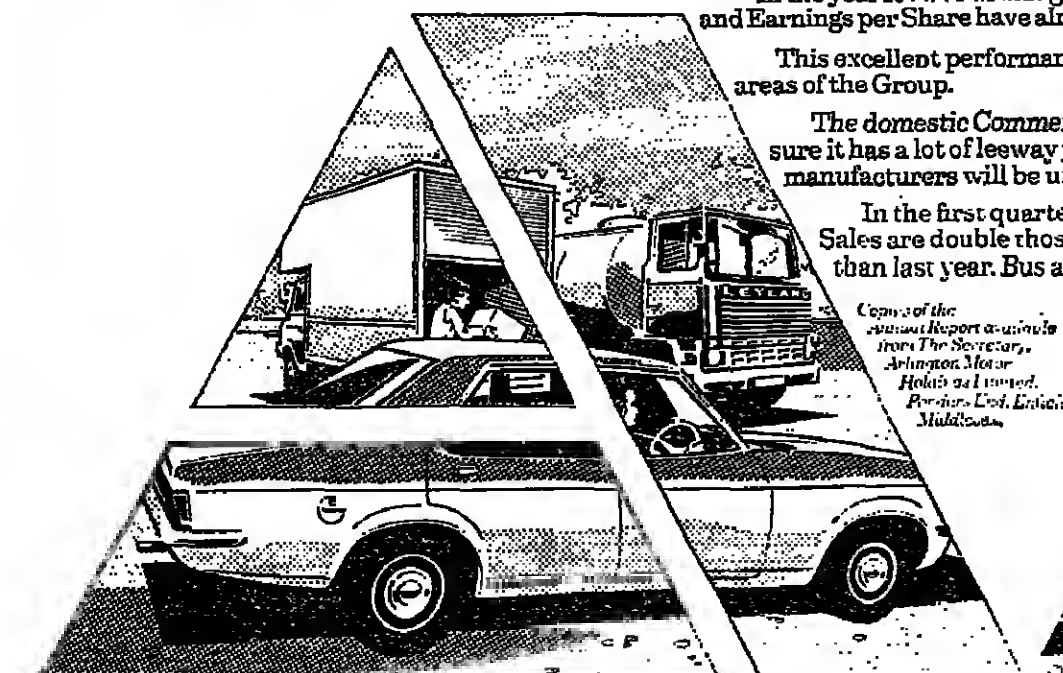
The domestic Commercial Vehicle Market has clearly improved but we are sure it has a lot of leeway yet to make up. Our concern is that British manufacturers will be unable to produce enough of the models in demand.

In the first quarter of this year Van Sales are over one third ahead and Car Sales are double those for last year. However, Truck Sales are little stronger than last year. Bus and Coach Sales are satisfactory.

Summary of Results	1977/78	1976/77
Sales	43,409	31,221
Profit before Tax	1,210	651
Profit after Tax	927	493
Extraordinary Items	96	—
Dividends	301	217
Earnings per share	24.51p	12.66p



ARLINGTON MOTOR HOLDINGS



All-share index nears peak

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous da

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

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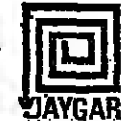
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A management selection consultancy (part of a successful listing agency group), we are involved in the recruitment of executives for companies all over the world. We need a very special person to be an important part of our small enthusiastic team. Someone who can get on with people and who has a flexible attitude and office experience. The work is varied, involving travel, hotel and other arrangements. So good organising ability is vital. You should have accurate typing, shorthand or dictation, general education, intelligence, a pleasant personality, confidence and the ability to deal with people at all levels. An acute sense of humour is essential. Salary, package, and 4 weeks holiday if you would like to have chat about the role, position, please phone 01-838 1500.

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